



River

Currents



A PUBLICATION OF
THE MOBILE RIVERINE FORCE ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 31, NUMBER 1
Spring, 2022

Message From the Radio Shack



Harry Hahn

Hello from the Radio Shack: sadly, in February I said goodbye to my wife of 50 years, Chris Hahn. Her fight against breast cancer was over February

26th. She was a wonderful lady who put up with my many interests and travels, one of which is your MRFA. There is an old saying that "behind each successful man is a strong woman". That was the case with Chris. I will miss her terribly.

Our mini reunion in San Diego is becoming larger than originally anticipated. Right now, the final agenda is forming. We have requested that on Wednesday Sept 8th, we do the Vietnam Unit Memorial at the US Navy Amphibious base, and Thursday September 9th, Swift boat rides in San Diego Bay. There are free bus rides to downtown Coronado every day for people who want to shop, or eat downtown.

The premier of the documentary on the MRF "Riverine Force", by Arballo productions is scheduled to be shown one of the nights of the reunion. There are still several balls up in the air surrounding the timing. We do have a commitment from the

continued on page 2

2022 "MRFA MINI-REUNION" - SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA LOEWS CORONADO BAY RESORT September 7 - 9, 2022



Our San Diego "Mini-Reunion" is less than six months away! We hope you have made your reservations and sent in your registration! People are once again, traveling! The hotel is fantastic and we have a special Room Rate of \$189.00 per night. There is a \$15 self-parking per night. We recommend utilizing Uber or Lyft from San Diego Airport to hotel as there is no airport hotel shuttle available. You can begin making your hotel reservations:

<https://www.loewshotels.com/coronado-bay-resort/group-mobile-riverine-force-association>

You can also call this number for reservations. Be sure to state you are with the MRFA! **1-877-872-8559**

We recommend utilizing Uber or Lyft from San Diego Airport to hotel as there is no airport hotel shuttle available.

If you plan on visiting the Vietnam Unit Memorial Monument, you will need to fill out SECNAV Form 55112-1, in order to have access to the base. You will find the form link on the MRFA.org Web page. If you have a DOD I.D. card, you do not have to fill out the form.

<https://www.mrfa.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Blank-Form-SEC-NAV-5512-1.pdf>

You may also utilize this number to make your reservation: 1-877-872-8559

Your membership expiration date is printed on your River Currents just above your name and address.



The Mobile Riverine Force and 9th Infantry Division Vietnam Page. After you send a request to join the group, Bob Pries will approve your request to join the group.

Mobile Riverine Force Association Membership Application Form

New Member Associate Member Renewal Sponsor
 Donation CCB-18 Mobile Museum
 Change of address below.

NEWSLETTER DELIVERY
 Postal Delivery Go Green with Email

Name _____
 Street _____
 City _____
 State _____ Zip Code _____
 Phone _____
 Cell _____
 E-mail _____

WW-II Korea Vietnam
 Army Member
 Unit (Division, Brigade, Battalion, Company, Platoon, Battery) _____
 Navy Member
 Unit (Ship, Boat Hull Numbers, Navy Activity/Detachment, etc.) _____

Dates Served in Unit (mm/yr - mm/yr) _____ to _____

| | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| MEMBERSHIP RATES | DONATION |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Year \$20 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Years \$50 | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |

To become a member, mail your check or money order (payable To MRFA) to Frank Jones, MRFA Membership Chairman, 9 San Marino Pkwy, Fenton, MO 63026-7513

Meaning of “Fair Winds and Following Seas.”

“*Fair Winds and Following Seas*” is a gesture of good luck to those we will miss and sailors who have served with honor and courage. The combination of phrases implies that a vessel will have good winds, and not have to pound into the waves. The phrase can be used as a toast or salutation between mariners. It is often used at a “beginning” ceremony such as a commissioning ceremony, as well as in retirement, change of command, or farewell ceremonies.

Following seas are defined by Bowditch’s American Practical Navigator as “*A sea in which the waves move in the general direction of the heading*” and can be dangerous if the winds and sea are too strong. But the mariners’ traditional blessing implies that both are comfortably rolling in the same direction as the boat.

(Sources include the former Naval Historical Center and Wikipedia)

Condolences

The members of the MRFA extend their sincere, heartfelt condolences to Harry Hahn and his family for the passing of his wife, Christine, on February 26th. “At 1:45 this morning Christine Hahn transitioned into her eternal life. She was a good woman and my wife of almost 50 years. She loved her family and friends and her fur babies. They are now with her as she crossed over the rainbow bridge to meet them. She was a giving person. How strong she was fighting cancer for the past 5 years. Her fight the past 6 months was so admirable. People could not believe how she fought back at this terrible disease. God Bless her and may he grant her soul rest in eternal Peace.” Harry



“Some of you had asked me if you could send flowers or make a donation. She was an avid dog lover and had a favorite charity. If you care to make a donation please do. Here is a link to the site for the Morris Foundation and Chris’s homepage.” <https://fundraise.morrisanimalfoundation.org/memorials/Chrishahn>

Message From The Radio Shack

continued from page 1

USS Midway to be able to use it for the premier showing. More to come. A final agenda will be published in the Summer “River Currents.” Arballo Productions is still seeking a main corporate sponsor for the documentary. All donations, corporate and individual are still welcomed.

Look for the full details in this newsletter of how to sign up for the mini reunion. Rooms are going fast and any last-minute reservations may not be able to be accommodated at Lowe’s Coronado once our room commitment is met.

Harry Hahn, President, SparksRivRon13@aol.com



**2022 MRFA & 9th Infantry Division
Mini Reunion
Registration Form**



This is NOT your Hotel form. make Hotel Reservation separately

September 7-9, 2022 - Loews, Coronado, CA

Name _____

Unit in Vietnam _____ Dates _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ or Cell _____

E-mail _____

Send my registration confirmation to me by e-mail Yes No

No guests

First reunion

| Name(s): Spouse/Guest(s) (1 at no charge) | City | State |
|---|-------|-------|
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |

Registration fee: Cost includes member and 1 /spouse or guest (\$55)

(Does not cover lodging, food, bus trips, or shuttles)

Total number of other guest(s) _____ x \$25 ea.

Guests under 16 are free \$ _____ Fee

Bus to and from Memorial = \$20 per person \$ _____ Xtra Guest

PCF - Swift Boat Ride per person fee = \$35 per person \$ _____ Bus to Memorial

Nonmember registration fee (\$80) \$ _____ Boat Ride

Late member registration fee: (\$75) Non-member (\$100) Grand total enclosed \$ 0

Please send this form with your check or money order (payable to the MRFA or Mobile Riverine Force Association) to:

Frank Jones
9 San Marino Parkway
Fenton, MO 63026
314-303-2730
mrfatango48@gmail.com
by August 1, 2022.

Returned checks and cancellations prior to the reunion will be charged a \$25 processing fee.

Note: You need to check in at the MRFA registration desk or Bayside gathering room to receive your name tag.

Message From Jeff and Shannon Arballo



Hello there,
Jeff and I hope that this update finds you and yours healthy, hopeful, and beginning

to anticipate and enjoy the beauty of Spring.

As you are aware, March 29th was National Vietnam War Veterans Day, and we pray that all the Sailors and Soldiers of the Mobile Riverine Force were made to feel a little extra special and appreciated. A special day dedicated to those that served in that land far away, so many years ago.

This Vietnam War Veterans Day was a bit emotional for our family and hit Shannon especially hard, since this was her first without her dad, her own Hero... Joe Crutcher, HA(L)-3 Navy Seawolf. In a tearful message posted on Facebook, Shannon shared why films like this matter and are so very important. There will be a day, many years from now when the remaining Soldiers and Sailors will no longer be here with us on earth but will be reunited with their brothers in Heaven. When that time comes, the words spoken on film, the laugh, the smile, the tears, the emotion, and the very heart of your experiences, told by those that lived them, will be a treasure for your family, future generations, and our Nation.

To those that have shared their story with us in an interview, we thank you for entrusting us. For those that have called and offered perspective, history, insight, photos, and film, we thank you as well! With Covid, we have experienced our share of round-about, speedbumps and hurdles, but we press on and have worked through many of the challenges thrown our way as you all have done yourselves.

We realize that there are still individuals who wished to be interviewed for the film, but sadly the painful reality is that we are simply running out of time based

on the deadlines ahead. We have few remaining interviews tentatively scheduled in the coming weeks. Please know that we believe that EVERY story is important, and every individual experience contributes to the legacy of the Mobile Riverine Force.

There are, however, additional ways that you can help us. This is the FINAL CALL for any original photos and/or film that you may want to share with us for use in the Documentary. Please feel free to reach us by phone or email with any questions.

Secondly, we are still actively seeking CORPORATE SPONSORS. For us to reach our timeline and goal to completion, securing CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP is imperative. This is a HUGE opportunity for Business Owners and Corporations, so our ask is that you

connect us with anyone you know who an interest.

In closing, we simply want to share that producing this film has been a tremendous honor and privilege. Making a feature documentary is a series of moments and milestones and believe me when I tell you this... the best is yet to come!

Take care,

Jeff and Shannon Arballo

(A copy of the publication listing corporate sponsors, and a letter to potential sponsors is in the Winter, 2022 issue of "River Currents," available on line, at mrfa.org at this link;)

<https://www.mrfa.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Winter-2021-revised.pdf>

FREE SHIPPING
ON ORDERS OVER \$60

MRFA GEAR LOCKER

ORDER FORM

| Qty | Model Number | Size | Unit Price | Amount |
|---|--------------|------|------------|----------------|
| | | | | \$ |
| | | | | \$ |
| | | | | \$ |
| | | | | \$ |
| | | | | \$ |
| | | | | \$ |
| | | | | \$ |
| | | | | \$ |
| | | | | \$ |
| | | | | \$ |
| Subtotal | | | | \$ |
| (If order is over \$60, Shipping is FREE) | | | | \$ 8.00 |
| Grand Total | | | | \$ |

Ordering is as easy as 1-2-3.

1. Indicate your choice of item number (be sure to include size, if applicable), with quantity, and total amount. Add amounts for grand total to enclose.
2. Make check or money order payable to: MRFA. The MRFA does not take credit cards.
3. Mail Gear Locker Order Form and check to MRFA, PO Box 271, Lake Villa, IL 60046. Email Harry Hahn at SparksRivRon13@AOL.com for questions.

Products Chairman
HARRY HAHN
President

Name _____
Shipping Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____
E-mail _____

MRFA GEAR LOCKER

www.mrfa.org

FREE SHIPPING
ON ORDERS OVER \$60

T-Shirts

100% heavy-duty cotton T-shirts. Featuring full-color screen printed logos! Perfect for parties, especially with us! Available in sizes from Medium to XXXL except R-17 (no S-M)
\$20.00 • Add \$2.00 for sizes 2-3XL



Available IN

L and 3XL

R-17 Back

R-17 Front



T018 9th Inf Div
Vietnam



T001 MRF ASPB
only in 2xl and 3xl



T002 MRF Monitor



T003 MRF Tango Helo
only in 2xl, 3xl



T004 MRF CCB



T005 MRF Tango Ragtop



T006 MRF VCCC
No XL's left



T016 Brown Water Navy
Vietnam
M, 3XL



T018 9th Inf Div Vietnam

UPDATED: 9/22/2021



Contact Changes

Please send Frank Jones any changes in address, phone number or e-mail addresses so that he can keep our database updated.

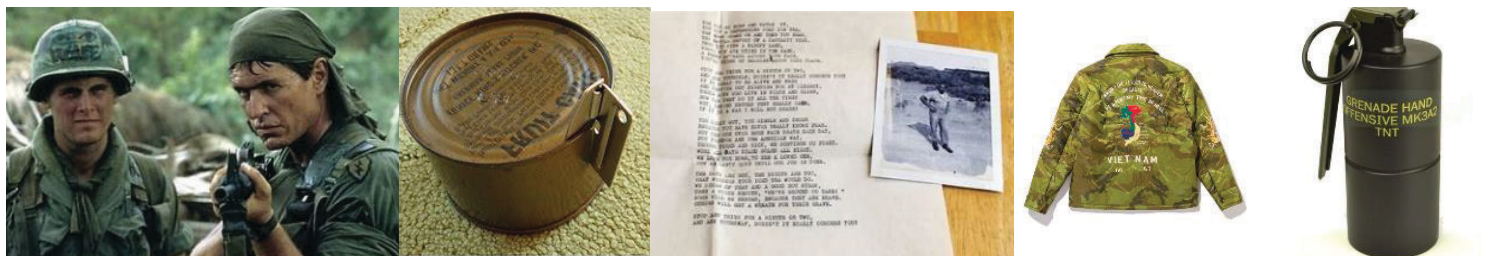
His address is:

9 San Marino Parkway, Fenton, MO 63026
Frank's e-mail address is mrfatango48@gmail.com

Contact the Editor

If you have questions, stories, or comments for "River Currents," please e-mail Terry Sater, at terry.s8er@yahoo.com Not all stories can be published. All must be family friendly. We want a good balance of Army and Navy stories, so please participate!

Survey Question: "What souvenir, or keepsake of Vietnam means a great deal to you?"



Lee Kolstad. Co. D, 15th Combat Engineers. I have two keepsakes from Nam. The first is a small green towel that I wore around my neck for many purposes including for good luck. The other is my P-38 can opener that I have kept on my key chain for over 50 years.

Joseph Butchart. I was assigned to Company A, 15th Combat Engineer Battalion. Clearly, my most favorite thing I brought home from Nam was – ME! But what I do cherish the most is what I found when my mom passed away. I found a little box that contained every single letter I had written her when I was there. Needless to say, it was an emotional moment for me when I found them. It made me realize how much she cherished the few lines I wrote her every week because she didn't know what my fate would be.

John Weiss. I guess the souvenir, I have would be the nail that went through my leg. The medic was going to throw it away. Nope, I made him tape it to my dog tags.

Joseph Lacapruccia. M-92-2. I have a poncho liner jacket with an embroidered map of VN on the back.

Rob Schlegel. FTG3, LST-1082. Pitkin County, 1970-71. My favorite memento from my time in Vietnam is the ring and pin from the last concussion grenade I threw.

James P. Wollner. Cpl. 9/67 to 8/68. 2nd Airboat Plt. Echo Company, 15th Combat Eng. 9th Inf. Div. Our Airboats hadn't arrived from the States yet so we were assigned to an infantry unit at Tan Tru. As I was running to a bunker during a mortar attack, a blast, and knocked me into a summersault, kept running and made it to the bunker. Didn't even know I was wounded until I felt blood dripping down my back. I still have the green T-shirt I was wearing the night I was wounded, (shrapnel hole w/blood,) . In January of 1968 we were assigned to work with the Royal Thai Army, Queens Cobra Regiment. Most of the Thai soldiers wore a chain with many small Buddhas around their necks (20 to30+) for protection. They in turn gave me a couple to wear. On the day our Platoon Sgt. Was killed in an ambush, He left his Buddhas hanging by his bunk. Needless to say, I never took mine off, and still have them today!

Charles Allen. Bought a new "boonie hat," which I wear when I mow. I hate wearing a hat but that goes on the old melon, when I go outside in the summer, to mow.



Warren Thomson. I have a few pieces of junk like flags and a lighter but they do not have meaning for me. The most meaningful three things are:

A series of reel-to-reel tapes that my mother and other family members made and sent to me while I was in Nam. I have since had them converted to CD format.

Hundreds of pictures and slides that I took over there.

I do have a few letters that I sent to my mom that are special.

Bill Patterson. QM2 (CAPT, USN Ret), 105 mm Monitor 2, RAS 13, SEAFLOAT, Nam Can, IV Corps. Picked up early and wore with my dog tags a medallion in Saigon that was a peace sign revised to look like a B-52 and had the letters "WAR" instead of "PEACE." It's currently part of the VN display at the American Legion Post 18 in Lockport, IL. My friendly Buck knife (it's a Navy thing) also followed me home.

Gary A Cunningham. 3/60th 9th Infantry D Company. 07/1968-06/1969. My wife sent me a little Christmas tree that I hung above my bunk on the ships. There were three plastic angels on it, and I still have one that I hang on our tree every year.

Al Breininger, CSO for RivDiv91. Jan to Dec., 1967. The keepsake I carried with me for 20 years after Vietnam until it went missing, was the gift I received that Christmas Eve in the Yokosuka Naval Hospital. It was a fingernail clipper that probably cost about 15 to 20 cents at the time. To me, that

was a treasured gift that was priceless because it showed people cared for me when I was in an unexpected place with just the uniform I was issued for travel. Being away from family during the Christmas Holiday was sad, but it is one I shall never forget. Other Christmas times are a blur. Not Christmas 1967. I realize these events did not take place when with the MRF, but they resulted from MRF action.

New Survey Question:

What did letters from home mean to you?

Was there a particular letter that stands out?

Please send your survey responses to
Terry Sater, at terry.s8er@yahoo.com.

**MAKE SURE YOU INCLUDE YOUR
NAME, UNIT, AND
WHEN YOU SERVED!**

Survey Question: "What did you have written on your helmet?"

Joseph Butchart. I was assigned to Company A, 15th Combat Engineer Battalion. I worked for the first sergeant. He did not allow any writing on our helmets.



Joseph Lacapruccia. M-92-2. I had "Sock It To Me" on my helmet, and on my gun mount.

Charles Allen. I had my name, "BM3," and "Dayton, Ohio" on the front of my helmet along with crossed anchors.

Warren Thomson. I did not have any writing on my helmet. I kept my ration cigs up there to keep them dry. Not very bright considering they were red packs against a camo helmet cover!!!

Bill Patterson. QM2 (CAPT, USN Ret), 105 mm Monitor 2, RAS 13, SEAFLOAT, Nam Can, I V Corps. "Lawman" I was employed with the County Police Dept when I received my Reserve orders to active duty. I honed my skills in VN with the LAWs and had occasions to use them.

Gary A Cunningham. 3/60th 9th Infantry D Company. 07/1968-06/1969. On my helmet was my wife's name and my hometown with a cross.

"Brown Water Breakthrough: "OPERATION SEALORDS"

BY JOHN PRADOS

(Excerpt from "The VVA Veteran," January/February, 2015)



One of the most ambitious U.S. Navy operations of the Vietnam War began with an Army general obsessed with rice

and a Navy admiral looking for a mission.

It was late 1968. Tet dominated the rear-view mirror. Gen. Creighton V. Abrams had succeeded to the top seat at the Military Assistance Command, Vietnam. Abrams wanted and needed a new strategy. His predecessor, Gen. William Westmoreland, had believed in attrition, in striking the enemy down. But all the assessed losses had not prevented the adver-

sary from attacking all across South Vietnam. Indeed, the Tet Offensive took place just when Westmoreland thought he had reached the crossover point where MACV started winning the war. Body-count measured attrition, but Abrams believed those figures were too easily manipulated and misinterpreted.

He wanted something that measured capabilities more directly. Over the summer of 1968, in breaking up the second and third waves of the NVA and Viet Cong's Tet effort, several large supply caches were captured. Suddenly Gen. Abrams found his solution: rice.

Supply caches were the foundation of the insurgency's capabilities. Feeding and arming a force—under fire in a land the North Vietnamese and Viet Cong did not control—meant every kind of supply had to be pre-positioned, stocked, and moved under fire. Make war on the supplies, capture the cach-

continued on page 8

Brown Water Breakthrough *continued from page 7*

es, Abrams reasoned, and you had a way to devastate the enemy.

At this point—the fall of 1968—the U.S. Navy switched its theater commander. For eighteen months Rear Adm. Kenneth L. Veth had been the Commander of Naval Forces Vietnam (COMNAVFORV). Now the Navy brought in Vice-Adm. Elmo R. Zumwalt to replace him. Zumwalt's biggest command had been a destroyer. What Adm. Zumwalt had was smarts, conviction, and a knowledge of the arcane new skill called "systems analysis." He arrived in Vietnam sensing that the Navy lacked an operational focus, and he was determined to find it. Zumwalt visited all the components of COMNAVFORV and spoke to the frontline sailors.

One of Zumwalt's stops was at Dong Tam on the Mekong River, home to the River Assault Flotilla, the naval component of the Mobile Riverine Force. This unit combined naval vessels with Army troops for a real amphibious force, providing a major strike capability in the Mekong Delta and the southernmost portion of South Vietnam. Capt. Robert S. Salzer led the assault flotilla, also known as Task Force 117.

Salzer bent Zumwalt's ear, trying to convince him that U.S. delta strategy needed to be more aggressive. Naval forces primarily had interdiction and support roles, but those functions were passive. Operation Market Time, carried out off the coast by Task Force 115, checked seagoing traffic for smuggled supplies. Operation Game Warden—Task Force 116's effort on the rivers, principally in the Mekong Delta—did the same for the small dugouts and sampans that crowded the inland waterways. Salzer's assault flotilla furnished the heavy backup.

The month that Zumwalt arrived, Game Warden had searched some 11,000 vessels. But the enemy dominated the play, determining by its choice of river and canal routes and the timing of shipments which vulnerabilities he accepted. In the month before the Tet Offensive the Game Warden force had seized only twenty-two weapons and six-and-a-half tons of rice.

Salzer argued that if Task Force 116 worked actively to close off selected waterways, interdiction would force the Viet Cong into desperate attempts to move supplies, which could then be stopped. Tracking VC supply movements and plotting networks also would permit the capture of caches, disrupting the enemy's higher-level operations. The scheme received enthusiastic support from Capt. Earl F. "Rex" Rectanus, COMNAVFORV'S intelligence chief, whom the admiral credited with the idea. Others on Zumwalt's staff say the initiative was Salzer's.

Gen. Abrams was anxious for Adm. Zumwalt to present his general concept. One of Zumwalt's staff noticed that when Veth took the incoming admiral in to see the Top Boss, Abrams did not even acknowledge Veth's presence, focusing entirely on his successor. Before heading to Vietnam, Veth had been the Navy's chief lobbyist in Congress. In Saigon he seemed out of place, doing the political stuff more than focusing on command. There was no particular reason to suppose Zumwalt would be any better.

That was before the admiral's Friday briefing. The MACV commander asked for something on paper. By Monday Zumwalt had a detailed prospectus. Abrams promptly accepted and asked what he could do to get the Navy what it needed.

This was the genesis of the Navy's first strategic interdiction operation in Vietnam, SEALORDS—Southeast Asia Lake Ocean River Delta Strategy. Zumwalt's staff records the origins of that name: Zumwalt intended to make Bob Salzer the fighting admiral of this endeavor. In the British navy, control of the fleet went to top officers called "sealords," with the First Sealord in charge. Zumwalt was pleased to make Salzer a sealord and named the operation accordingly.

SEALORDS became the generic label for an offensive operation that drew on almost all of the Navy's 38,000 sailors in Vietnam. Capt. Robert Powers furnished the scout and patrol elements

with his Task Force 116. It fielded light but heavily armed boats (PBRs for Patrol Boat, River), which deployed forward on the rivers and canals. Crews joked they were the "Pabst Blue Ribbon" navy. The PBRs were grouped in river sections, divisions, and squadrons. One river division modified the beer's logo for its unit patch.

The PBRs worked from mother ships, getting accommodation aboard converted LSTs (Landing Ship Tanks, amphibious craft with several thousand tons displacement). At important locations where SEALORDS needed a more permanent presence, the LSTs became the basis of shore facilities (Advanced Tactical Support Bases), such as Dong Tam.

Behind the patrol boats loomed the River Assault Flotillas of the Mobile Riverine Force, Salzer's command. For strikes against small VC units or on supply caches, there were the combat swimmers of SEAL Teams One and Two. The coastal patrol vessels of Task Force 115 were pulled in to monitor the Mekong and Bassac Rivers. That afforded SEALORDS access to bigger Swift boats (PCFs), Coast Guard cutters, and motorized sampans. The South Vietnamese Navy contributed its own river assault groups.

SEALORDS also had its private air arm in the form of Helicopter Attack Squadron UH-1L attack copters, known as the "Seawolves," and Light Attack Squadron OV-10 Broncos, the "Black Ponies." The whole force was designated Task Force 194 with Capt. Salzer at its helm.

Mike Demske was a sailor with Coastal Division 11. He crewed on PCF-94, in the same unit as John Kerry's Swift boat. He doubted the Vietnamese allies. In one firefight the Americans called in supporting South Vietnamese boats to replenish their mortar ammo. When the Swifts arrived and U.S. sailors jumped aboard to open the ammunition lockers, they found that their allies had dumped their mortar shells and filled the lockers with fishing nets.

The jungle went right up to the river banks, until Adm. Zumwalt ordered the spraying of Agent Orange along

continued on page 9

Brown Water Breakthrough *continued from page 8*

the waterways. The Swifts would go in at night, creep up to the riverbanks, and watch. In some canals or streams, when the boats could not turn around, they would have to back out. Demske believes that three-quarters of the sailors on the Swifts became casualties. His boat was shelled by North Vietnamese regulars one day in May 1969, and they sat for twelve hours before anyone arrived to tow them out.

Elmo R. Zumwalt III—the admiral’s son—was a Navy lieutenant. He skippered PCF-35 based at Ha Tien on the South Vietnam-Cambodia border. Young Zumwalt’s Swift patrolled in the Gulf of Siam and on canals that led into neutral Cambodia, and was involved in firefights across the border. On one occasion a Swift in company with PCF-35 was mined. His father worried that Lt. Zumwalt took extra—and unnecessary—risks.

The admiral’s decision to employ Agent Orange to force the VC back from the waterline had personal consequences: Young Zumwalt died from cancer at age 42. Adm. Zumwalt remained convinced to the end of his days that his son had died from exposure to Agent Orange. The VA now holds service aboard any Swift boat, PBR, LST, accommodation ship, or landing craft as a reason to award disability benefits based on exposure to Agent Orange.

Another who passed through Ha Tien before young Zumwalt was Dan Kelly, a door gunner with HAL-3, the Seawolves. One Navy specialized helicopter squadron for all the Mekong and the Ca Mau Peninsula was obviously not much. The choppers were in huge demand. As a result, the Seawolves rarely operated as a squadron, almost always as flights or detachments parceled out to fields all over the region.

Kelly’s detachment spent a week at Ha Tien before going on to the next operating base, eventually to return to home base at Binh Thuy, near Can Tho. Capt. Arthur H. Munson led the Seawolves. He put Detachment 5 at Dong Tam permanently. They had three weeks to relocate from the Army to the Navy side

The enemy was concerned enough that, on October 20, 1970, they mounted a full-scale raid on Sea Float, destroying the pontoon part of the base.

of the airstrip, but had no bunker material, lumber, cement, sandbags or pierced steel plating. For a bottle of rum and three cases of beer, the sailors liberated several trucks of lumber and a forklift from the Army. More beer opened the cement plant.

Meanwhile, it was in the summer of 1968, shortly before Zumwalt’s arrival in country, that sailors of Task Force 116 learned they would not be getting additional helicopters but rather the fixed-wing aircraft of the Black Ponies. Cmdr. Gilbert L. Winans would be the first CO of Light Attack Squadron 4 at Binh Thuy.

SEALORDS interdiction curtains went up quickly. They were nearly complete by the spring of 1969. Phase II began that April and focused more on the far south. Progress was judged sufficient that the Riverine Assault Force (Task Force 117) was de-activated in August 1969, the first major U.S. Navy element to head home.

Code names were a mix—“Barrier Reef,” “Giant Slingshot,” “Tran Hung Dao,” “Search Turn,” “Sea Tiger”—but their success led to the even more ambitious “Breezy Cove,” at Song Ong Doc

in the Ca Mau, in which SEALs plus SEALORDS forces and South Vietnamese troops created the “Sea Float” riverine base on pontoons. They eventually added a shore facility as well, all deep inside what had been a VC preserve.

The enemy was concerned enough that, on October 20, 1970, they mounted a full-scale raid on Sea Float, destroying the pontoon part of the base.

In its first year the SEALORDS were credited with destroying or capturing more than five hundred tons of enemy supplies, killing three thousand NVA and VC, and capturing an additional three hundred. Allied losses amounted to 186 killed and 1,451 wounded.

The remainder of the PBRs and Swifts and the U.S. apparatus of SEALORDS were transferred to the South Vietnamese on an accelerated basis by the end of 1970. In 1972 the South Vietnamese felt comfortable enough about the security situation in the far south that Saigon pulled a full infantry division out of IV Corps to fight in the battles near the Cambodian border. In a war where so many things went wrong, SEALORDS was one thing that went right.



“There is no such thing as closure for soldiers who have survived a war. They have an obligation, a sacred duty, to remember those who fell in battle beside them all their days and to bear witness to the insanity that is war.”

Lieutenant General Harold G. Moore

TAPS Tribute to a Fallen One

Member **Ralph E. Grampp** passed away on January 24, 2021. While in Vietnam he served with Delta Company, 3rd Battalion, 60th Infantry, 9th Infantry Division from April 1968 to May 1969. Ralph is survived by his wife Ann. – *“I know he found great joy, and I think some reconciliation with some of the memories he kept buried for so many years, through his MRFA membership.”* – Son John Grampp



Member Petty Officer 1st Class **Harold S. Lee** (USN Ret.) passed away on January 10, 2022. While in Vietnam onboard the USS Krishna (ARL-38) from January- December 1969. Harold is survived by his wife, Verna.

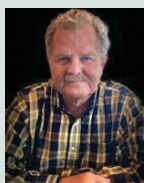


Member **Daniel Diamond** passed away in January 2022. While in Vietnam he served as a GMG onboard the USS White River (LSMR-536) from July 1968 to May 1970. – *“Dan attended many MRFA Reunions over the years and I am sure he enjoyed them immensely.”* – Shipmate Bill Brenna

Member **Samuel “Sam” Erskine Ferguson III** passed away on January 18, 2022. His exposure to Agent Orange caused his progressive neurological disorder. While in Vietnam he served with Alpha Company, 3rd Battalion, 47th Infantry, 9th Infantry Division from January to October 1968. Sam is survived by his wife, Michele.



Member **Johnny Lee Nelson** passed away on February 1, 2022 following a long three-year battle with Urothelial Bladder Cancer due to Agent Orange. While in Vietnam he served onboard the APL-26, a non-propelled Barracks Ship. Johnny is survived by his wife, Linda. – *“He always enjoyed reading the magazine and was a very proud Member of your organization.”* – Linda



Former Member **Lesley E. Simons** passed away in early February 2020. While in Vietnam he served with River Assault Squadron 13, River Assault Division 131 onboard T-131-4 from March to July 1969.

Member **Roy Dillard Spivey Jr.** passed away on January 4, 2022. While in Vietnam he served with Charlie Company, 3rd Battalion, 47th Infantry, 9th Infantry Division from March 1967 to March 1968. He is survived by his wife, Nancy.



Member **Captain Wade Tesar** (USN Ret.) passed away on February 12, 2022. While in Vietnam he served with Naval Support Activity, Danang from June 1968 to June 1969.

Wade is survived by his wife of 29 years, Denise. Former Member Ronald W. Ramsey passed away in February 2022. While in Vietnam he served onboard the USS White River (LSMR-536) as a LTJG Weapons Officer from October 1965 to August 1967. He is survived by his wife, Marilyn.

Member BMCS **Henry W. “Hank” Winston** (USN Ret.) passed away on August 1, 2021 following a long battle with COPD. While in Vietnam he served with River Assault Squadron 9, River Assault Division 92 as Boat Captain of A-92-3 from May 1968 to May 1969. Chief Winston is survived by his wife Patricia.

Member GMGCM **Frederick Raymond “Ray” Layne** (USN Ret.) passed away on April 18, 2021. While in Vietnam he served with River Assault Squadrons 11 & 13 from January 1969 to February 1970. Chief Layne also served 3 other tours in Vietnam. He is survived by his wife, Theresa.



Member **Patrick H. Benson** passed away on September 26, 2021. While in Vietnam he served with the 1st Cavalry Division and then with Charlie Company, 3rd Battalion, 47th Infantry, 9th Infantry Division from January to June 1967.

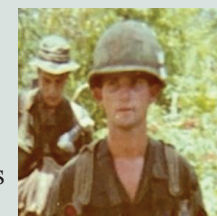


Member **Michael Barnes** passed away on July 6, 2021. While in Vietnam he served with 2nd Brigade, 3rd Battalion, 47th Infantry, 9th Infantry Division from January 1968 to January 1969. He is survived by his wife, Serena.

Member **Paul P. Ferguson** passed away on June 12, 2021 following a long battle with cancer. While in Vietnam he served onboard the USS Benewah (APB-35) as the Operations Officer from November 1968 to November 1969. During his tenure he also assumed collateral duty as Staff Communications Officer for Commander Task Force 117 who was embarked on the Benewah



Member **Alfred “Griff” Griffith** passed away on December 15, 2021. While in Vietnam he served as a Sergeant with Delta Company, 3rd Battalion, 60th Infantry, 9th Infantry Division from December 1967 to November 1968. He was awarded the Silver Star Medal for his brave actions on February 1, 1968. – *“He brought calm when there was chaos. His good judgment and dedication to his men was unwavering.”* – Robert Stump



9th Infantry Division "Order of Battle"

Many civilians, sailors and even some Army veterans may be confused by all of the various unit designations of the 9th Infantry Division. Here is a good diagram of the 9th Infantry "Order of Battle," which simply means "the units, formations, and equipment of a military force."



In Memory Of

This section is for members who wish to sponsor the MRFA by placing a notice in memory of one of their fallen comrades. In some instances, the name of the sponsor will precede the name of the person who was KIA, or has passed on since Vietnam. It's \$25 for four issues.

Serena Barnes, for Michael Barnes 2nd Brigade 3rd/47th 9th Inf.

Col. Dennis A. Bassett, for Lt. Leland McCants, III Bill Buffie, in memory of Lyle Parin USS Floyd County LST-762 (Vietnam)

John and Doris Chrzanowski, in memory of SP/4 Humberto Ruiz Santiago Jr. Grenadier A Co. 4th Bn 47th Inf. Rgt 9th Inf. Div. Died of wounds 06/27/69, Kien Hoa, South Vietnam (DC Wall Panel 21W Ln 025)

John and Doris Chrzanowski, for B Co. 6th/31st 9th Inf. Div. Troopers. KIA, B-40 Rocket, 12/13/69, Gary M. Gryzen (DC Wall Panel W15, Line 54) David A. McIntyre (DC Wall Panel W15, Line 54) and Gary T. Phillips (DC Wall Panel W15, Line 54).

David Wilson, for 2nd/60th KIA 08/05/69, Timothy Shelton 4th/39th KIA 06/25/69, Steven Murrury 4th/39th KIA 05/26/69, Harvey Crabtree 2nd/4th Arty KIA 06/19/69, and Dennis Mattox 1st/501st 101st Abn KIA 08/23/69

Orville "Lee" Daley, for Marvin Marks WWII, USS Askari ARL-30 Robert Flaige, for SFC Fernando Quintero KIA 02/27/68 and SP4 Robert "Bob" Jenks E Co. 3rd/60th KIA 03/03/68

Bill Frede, for BM1 Guy Dail, BM3 Johnny Maness and SN David Flamburis T-112-2, 1967

Tony Garvey, for Wes Sade, Billy Olsen, and Staff Sgt. James Williams C Co. 4th/47th 9th Inf

John W. Gerbing, for Noel T. West A Co 4th/47th KIA 06/19/67 Susan Hanmer, for SFC Michael Hanmer, RivRon 13 and 153 (07/69-02/71)

Joe Hilliard, for Joe Benack from Florida, and Donald Hartzell, from Pennsylvania KIA 1970

Bruce Jensen, in memory of Frederic Peers Webb, A-111-4 KIA 12/21/67

J. R. Johnson, 3rd/47th 9th "Recon" (05/66-01/68), in memory of Walker, Gotch, Paredex, Nelson, Hayes, Howard, King, Twitchell and Chesnoski.

Richard MacCullagh, for John (Doc) Phillips, HMC, USN (Ret) RivRon 15 and Richard MacCullagh for Chaplain Rene L. Petit, LT, CHC, RC, RivRon 13 and 15

Kaye Marten, Travis Marten, and Tristen Marten in memory of Monte Marten (husband, father, and grandfather) B Co. 2nd/39th 9th Inf Div. (1968-69)

Stan Melton, in Memory of Gary Speckman & Dick Hewitt ATC91-5 Plank Owners

Adam Metts, for Donald L. Bruckart T-111-2 KIA 3/31/69 A.R. "Monty" Montillo, in memory of John Sperry

Major J. D. Nichols III, CMDR, C Co. 3rd/60th Inf (12/66-11/67), for Alfred Comejo, Anthony Galeno, Richard Lasher, Rudolph Melendez, Sigfredo Pinto-Pinto, and Garrett Reid KIAs 08/20/67

Linda Pawlicki, in memory of Bob Pawlicki, T-111-11 (3/67-12/67)

Dave Schell, in memory of SFC Mike Hanmer, RivRon 13 & 153 (7/69-2/71)

Robert Stumpf, in memory of Jim Toney & Alfred (Griff) Griffith

Robert Stumpf, in memory of John Sperry & Joseph Rees Charlie Thompson, in Memory of Doyle E. Templeton 2nd/39th Inf. (9th Inf.

Okey Toothman, in memory of Sgt Dick Arnold A Co. 3rd/47th, Max Delacruz, and G. P. Jones C Co. 3rd/47th

Okey Toothman, in memory of Judy Wallace Okey Toothman, in memory of Major General Lucien "Blackie" Bolduc

Okey Toothman, in memory of Gary E. McCabe, A Co. 3rd/47th Nancy VanDruff, in memory of Robert E. VanDruff, T-91-5/T92-4 (11/68-11/69)

Henry Velezm, for my fallen brothers, B Co. 2nd/39th Inf From your Brothers, B Co. 2nd 39th Infantry, 9th Infantry Division, in memory of John Nielsen B Co. 2nd/39th (04/68-04/70)

The Mobile Riverine Force and 9th Infantry Division Vietnam



Hey Brothers, check out our Facebook page, "The Mobile Riverine Force and 9th Infantry Division Vietnam" Facebook group at <https://www.facebook.com/>

Our Facebook Group is dedicated to all Army and Navy men who served with pride and distinction in a place called the Mekong Delta. Be it on water or land, they all served their country. Whether they were on a Monitor or making a helo assault, setting an ambush on a lonely, quiet, dark night, walking through waist-deep water in a rice paddy, riding a tango boat up a narrow canal, or at anchor in the middle of a brown-water river for long hot hours. Places like Dong Tam, Tay Ninh, Snoopy's Nose, the Cross Roads, Ambush Alley, My Tho, Rach Kien, Plain of Reeds, Parrot's Beak, Tan An, Nha Be or Ben Tre and names like Colleton, Washtenaw, Windham, Benewah, Westchester, Satyr, Askari, PBR, and Swiftboat are names and places we'll never forget.

This group is to preserve a living memory of all those who served in the Mobile Riverine Force and 9th Infantry Division Vietnam.

Many friendships from days past have been renewed because of our group page. It is a great place to make connections with others who served with the Mobile Riverine Force and 9th Infantry Division.

A few rules are in place to keep order in the group. They are:

1. Politics and religion are the fastest way to start an argument and cause hard feelings and absolutely have no place on this page.
2. We expect members to treat each other with respect.

We hope you enjoy the group.

In Brotherhood,
Doc Pries - MRFA Vice President and Group Admin



Mobile Riverine Force Association

9 San Marino Parkway

Fenton, MO 63026

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



NON PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ST. LOUIS, MO
PERMIT #2710

MRFA SPONSORS

Our expressed thanks to those who have become MRFA sponsors! It's never too late to get onboard as a sponsor, so we continue to seek and welcome those who wish to sponsor the MRFA! Sponsorship in the MRFA helps to defray the cost of producing *River Currents*. Sponsorship lasts for a period of one year, with your name and information appearing in four issues. Send your \$25 (payable to the MRFA) to Frank Jones, 9 San Marino Parkway, Fenton, MO 63026

VISIT WWW.MRFA.ORG

Sponsors...

Dallas Abbott, A Co. 3rd/60th Inf (06/67-06/68)
Ed Arledge, USS Indra ARL-37 (1967-70)
Dale Ashley, USS Monmouth County LST-1032 (11/66-11/67)
Christian Bachofer Jr., ComRivDiv 92 (07/68-06/69)
Col. Dennis A Bassett, A Co. 3rd/60th (08/68-07/69)
Stephen Benedict, A Co 3rd/60th Inf (03/68-03/69)
Thomas R. Bogner, A&C Cos 2nd/39 Inf. (2/68-1/69)
Bruce Branigan, D Co. 3rd/60th Infantry (05/68-12/68)
Gary Bruno, USS Benawah APB-35 (02/70-02/71)
M. Gen. Walter Bryde, Jr. HQ 3rd/34th Arty (1968-69)
Robert Caldwell Jr., USS Nye County LST-1067 (02/66-02-67)
Jim Carter, RivRon 15 T-52 (12/69-12/70)
Melvin Chandler, Co. C 3/47th (5/68-5/69)
Thomas Childress, USS Krishna ARL-38 (06/70-08/71)
Kevin Comp, LST 825 & LST 601 (4/69-4/70)
LTG Robert Conaty, XO, RivDiv 131 (05/68-04/69)
Lee J. Connell, Jr, C Co 4th/39th & HHC 2nd/60th (04/69-10/69)
Antonio D'Agostini, 15th Engineer 9th Inf.
Orville Daley, USS Askari ARL-30 (1967-68)
CD David A. Desiderio, USCG (Ret), USCGC Pontchartrain (WHEC-70) (02/68-09/69)
Robert Dockendorff, NSA Dong Tam, YRBM-17 (03/67-04/68)
Bob Duffy, E Co., 3rd/47th (05/66-02/68)
William Duggan, RAS 13, M-131-2 (08/68-08/69)
Clayton E. East, USS Krishna, ARL-38 (08/66-03/68)
Paul Eastham, T-132-11 (05/69-07/69)
Virgie Eblen, Associate Member
Leon Edmiston, B Co., 3rd/60th, 9th Inf. (06/68-05/69)
Clifton J. Elliott, C Co., 3/60 (1976)
Dennis Erlandson, D Co., 3rd/47th (08/68-04/69)
Larry Gunner Ethridge, USS Askari, ARL-30 (07/69-07/70)
Horst S. Filtzer, MD FACS, Battle Surgeon, 3rd/47th, 9th Inf. (12/66-4/68)
Robert Flaige, E Co 3rd/60th Inf. (05/67-05/68)
Ronnie Fontenot, YRBM-17, in Dong Tam (01/68-11/68)
Neil Fovel, 3rd/47th Inf. (11/67-03/68)
Dennis Frank, D Co. CMDR 3rd/60th Inf (07/68-07/69)
Bill Frede T-112-2 (01/67-10/67)
Richard Gallagher USS Mercer APB-39 (1968-69)
Tony Garvey C Co. 4th/47th 9th Infantry Div. (1968)

Capt. James Gautier Co RivDiv 111 (10/68-05/69)
John N. Gavin USS Satyr ARL-23 (1971)
David R. Georgius, NAVAIRFAC AIRCOFAT Logistics Helicopters (10/70-11/71)
John W. Gerbing A&E Co 4th/47th Inf (1966-68)
William Halloran COMRIVFLOT ONE N2 (09/67-09/68)
William Halloran COMRIVFLOT ONE N2 (09/67-09/68)
Roger Hamilton, Jr. USS Mark AKL-12 (08/68-08/69)
Roger Hamilton, Jr. USS Mark AKL-12 (08/68-08/69)
Susan Hanmer, Honorary
BMCN (Ret) Wayne Haggood RivRon 15 T-52 (07/70-12/70) & RID 48 (12/70-07/71)
Joseph Harper USS White River LSMR-536 (12/66-12/68)
Leo Haynes RivDiv 594 PBR-8120 (04/69-02/70)
Wayne Higdon USS Satyr ARL-23 (06/67-05/69)
Joe Hilliard Gunner T-48 (09/69-03/70) and Boat Captain T-44 (03/70-07/70)
James Hoyer 1097th TC (MB) (08/68-07/69)
James Hoyer 1097th TC (MB) (08/68-07/69)
John Hughes 3/60 9th Inf. (04/68-10/68)
Alan G. Hyde 9th Signal (12/66-10/67)
Truman Irving USS Mark AKL-12 (08/68-08/69)
Jeff Jacobson T-151-31 (06/69-06/70)
Francis Janssen B Co. 93rd Const Eng. (08/67-07/68)
David Jarczewski C Co. 4th/47th Inf 9th Div. (05/66-05/68)
Bradley Jenkins HHSB 3rd/34th Arty & 2nd/47th Mech (09/68-10/69)
Bruce Jensen T-111-3 (1967-68)
J. R. Johnson Recon 3rd/47th (01/67-01/68)
Gerald Johnston USS Nye County LST-1067 (01/66-01/67)
David R. Jones Riv 11 Z-11-7 (10/68-10-69)
Frank Jones RivDiv 152 T-48 Boat Captain (07/69-07/70)
Richard L Jones USS Tutula ARG-4 (06/71-12/71)
PJ Jorczak T-92-5 (11/66-11/67)
Jerry "Hollywood" Kaweck B Co. 3rd/47th 9th inf (07/68-12/68)
Dane Keller RivDiv 532 PBR 121 (05/69-05/70)
Thomas Kelley USN (Ret) Ras 9 & RivDiv 152 (08/68-06/69)
Chuck Kimball GMG3 RivDiv 92 RivDiv 153 (01/69-01/70)
John Klungreseter T-111-2 & M-111-1 (01/68-06/70)
Gary L. Knox RivRon 9 A-91-8 (01/68-06/70)
LTC Nick Laiacona USA (Ret.) C Co. 3rd/60th Inf (1968-69)
Robert Lamoureux C Co. 3rd/47th

Art "Lash" LaRue Zippo-3 RID-45 Alpha-67 (1/70-1/71)
Ron Linville RAID-75 (09/70-09/71)
Jerry Lippincott IUWG-1, LCM-877 (06/70-05/71)
James Long Sr. ComRivFlot One Staff (11/67-11/68)
**Naval Advisory Group
Richard Lorman T-152-6 (06/68-06/69)
James Lowe APL-26 (05/68-05/69)
James H. MacDonald, B Co. 3rd/60th Inf.(11/67-03/68)
Frank O. Martinolich A. Co 3rd/60th 9th Inf Div. (03/68-03/69)
James Masters USS Askari ARL-30 (09/69-08/70)
Vincent Matura RivRon 152 (10/69-07/70) "Suffolk 24"
Jerry L. Maygarden, USS Luzerne County LST-902 (6/69-7/70)
Paul A. Mayne YRBM-16 (01/67-02/68)
Larry McCallister C-2 4th/47th Infantry (12/67-12/69)
Craigs McLaughlin D Co 3rd/47th 9th Inf Div. (09/68-07/69)
Cyril "Bud" McQuillan, Jr. E Co. 2nd/39th HHC (02/68-02/69)
Stan Melton RivRon 9 T-91-5 (01/67-12/67)
Adam Metts T-111-2 (08/68-10/69)
Adam Metts T-111-2 (08/68-10/69)
Walter Meyer USS Benawah APB-35 (07/68-06/69)
Nick Miller COS RivDiv 152 (07/68-06/69)
Joe Moore USS Colleton APB-36 (10/66-08/67)
Albert B. Moore, USS Benawah and IUWG-1 (04/67-04/70)
J. Russell and Alice Moore, T-91-5, (11/68-06/69)
Lt Frank Moran B Co 4th/47th Inf (11/67-10/68)
Dors G. Musgray A 3/60th (1966-67)
Russ Naden USS Tutula ARG-4 (03/69-03/70)
Daryl Newell, USS Benawah APB-35 (4/70-2/71)
James Noyes C Btry, 3rd/34th Arty (06/67-06/68)
Christopher Olsen T-131-8 (05/68-05/69)
Capt. Jerry Pape USN (Ret) Staff COMRIVFLOT ONE (01/68-12/68)
Stephen Paradisi B Co. 3rd/47th (12/68-06/69)
Dwayne Parsons M-111-1 (Zippo 1) (11/67-11/68)
Anthony L. Perez, USS Iredell County LST-839 (11/69-07/70)
John "Ron" Perry T-132-11 (06/68-06/69)
Michael Howard Phillips D Co. 15th Combat Engineers (08/68-06/69)
Paul Ray M-151-5 (06/69-07/70)
David Raybell Monitor 111-3 (11/66-02/68)
Col. Henly "Ed" Reed HHC 2nd/60th Infantry
Roger Rose RAS 13 RivDiv 131 A-2 T-3 T-10 (06/69-06/70)

Jerry Ross T-131-1 (08/69-08/70)
Durwood D. Rosser M-91-1 (10/67-08/68)
Will Rugemer C-151-1 (05/68-05/69)
Billie Sanders Rivron 11 RAD 112 T-112-1 & CCB-112-1 (06/68-08/68)
Norman Saunders B Co. 3rd/39th Inf (01/69-08/69)
Duane Schinn Z-111-7 and M-111-2 (12/67-06/68)
Robert "Bob" and Betty A. Schrader D Co. 9th Med BN (07/68-07/69)
F. George Schuster LTJG USS Indra ARL-37 (1968-69)
COL Sam Schutte Co. B 4th/47th Infantry (05/66-1/68)
George Schwemmer C Co. 6th/31st Inf. (1968-69)
Thomas D. Scott USS Colleton APB-36 (12/66-4/68)
Thomas D. Scott USS Colleton APB-36 (12/66-04/68)
Pete Seitz USS Askari ARL-30 3/67-2/69
Jerry Shearer C Co. 3rd/60th 9th Inf (04/67-04/68)
Joseph W. Shedlock A-152-4 (10/68-07/69)
CDR William D. Shutters USN (Ret) Boat Captain T-111-1 (9/67-8/68)
Bill Slover XO USS Colleton APB-36 11/66-4/68
Richard Snell E Co. 15 Eng. Bat. 9th Inf. (09/68-08/69)
John Sturtz T-151-9 (06/68-06/69)
Bryan Swisher B Co. 3rd/47th Inf (12/68-6/69)
John Taitch Jr. A Co. 2nd/47th Inf. (08/69-08/70)
Charles Thompson 9th Admin Co. (02/66-11/67)
Harley Timmerman T-132-10 (06/68-06/69)
Jim Towey Co. B 2nd/60th Infantry (10/68-08/69)
Robert J. Troutman B-2 2nd/60th Air Mobile 9th Inf (01/69-05/69)
John Trudeau A Co. 3rd/60th 9th Inf. (03/68-08/68)
Darwin Turpin 4th/47th Alpha Co. (09/67-09/68)
Roger Valentine USS Askari ARL-30 (07/67-05/68)
David J. Vicknair USS Washtenaw County LST-1166 (1968-1970)
Ron Wallace B Co. 3rd Plat 3rd/47th Inf (05/66-08/67)
Bill Weidman T-111-12 (02/67-02/68)
Ken Westman YFU-4 Naval Support Activity Danang (04/68-12/68)
David H. White USN (Ret) USS Satyr ARL-23 (08/69-08/70)
BMCN Donald Wiita USN (Ret) T-111-13 (03/67-02/68)
Jeffrey L. Withers RivRon 11 A-112-8 and M-112-2 (06/68-06/69)
William H. Ziebarth 9th Signal 3rd/34 Arty (05/66-12/67)
James Zieminski EN2 Boat Captain RivDiv 153 ASPB 6854 (04/69-04/70)