

In Memory Of

This section is for the members who wish to sponsor the MRFA by placing a notice in memory of one of their fallen comrades. In some cases the name of the sponsor will precede the name of the person who was KIA, or has passed on since Vietnam.

John Ax, for all 2nd/47th KIA's "All Panthers"
Jack Benedick, for C Co., 4th/47th, 66-68 & C Co., 3rd/60th 69

Jack Benedick, for Cpt. John Hopkins C Co., 4th/47th KIA 5-6-68

Henry Argon, B Co., 2nd/47th Inf., KIA 1967
Jerry Capol, for all A Co., 3rd/39th Inf.

Andy O'Mara, for Monte DeVere, 9th MP KIA 1-10-70 & Jonathan Lamm KIA 2-11-70

Robert Stumpf, for Joseph Reese E Co., 3rd/60th Inf., KIA 4-7-68

Larry Alushin, USS White River LSMR 536
Jasper Northcutt, for Sgt. James E. Boorman B Co., 2nd/47th Inf., KIA 4-27-67

Jim Toney, for Harold H. Hunter E Co., 3rd/60th Inf. KIA 1-27-69 & John T. Lynn E Co., 3rd/60th Inf., KIA 7-21-68

James J. Byrnes, for members of the Junk Force, Dung Island

David Lynn, for Harold Barns, Robert Bouchete, Herman Miller KIA 8-11-68 IUWG-1-3 Qui-Nhon

James Roselli, for Mark Schoenberger B/CO/3rd/39th Inf.

Joe Hilliard, Tango-48 for Joe Benak and Donald Hartzell

Capt. Peveril Blundell USN Ret., for Paul Wolfgang, RivAstSqd-13

Harley G. Timmerman, For Jerry Sessions RivRon-13 T-132-10

MS. Neal A. Now, for Captain John G. Now USN Ret. ComRivFlot-One

B Co., 3rd/60th for Lt. Robin Yount
Paul De Nicola B Co., 3rd/60th, for Alex Radisa PCFs 55-19

Charles Kaiser, for father CWO Charles M. Kaiser, 9th Inf. Div WW-11

Seems Like Only Yesterday: Memories

Sometimes it seems like a long time ago, and at other times only like yesterday, that we were in Vietnam. I had my basic training at Fort Dix, NJ. My A.I.T. at Fort Eustis, VA, where I went through training on various river craft. My MOS's were 61B10 and C1C20, water craft operator and boat engineer. I arrived in Vietnam in May of 1969, my first stop was Cam Rahn Bay, for further assignment. I was attached to the Marine Maintenance Activities Vietnam (NMAV) and sent to a small detachment out of Saigon. We had a small repair facility at a place called Camp Davies, I believe I have it spelled correctly. It was situated along the Saigon River. Most of my time however, was being transported by skeet barge to various Vietnamese outpost along the river to assist in the observation and repairs of various types of river craft, Mike sixes and eight's, PBR's, a couple of air boats, fuel and water barges etc. At most of these so-called repair facilities I was the only GI around and needless to say I was uptight a lot. After awhile they moved us to Camp Davies, it was a good thing as a couple days later the Hotel we were bunked in got blown up, I think it was called the Dianam?

Sometime later they moved us out into the river

aboard a Floating Machine Shop, the hooch cots seemed comfortable after moving on to this dump. It was a floating mess, or more bluntly a — house. I saw a lot of mud, river and swamp down around the area as I did this kind of work for about 6 to 7 months, we were only supposed to do it in 2-3 weeks stints as we worked alone so much in out lying areas. On our way at sunrise and back before sundown.

As with most units we were always short handed, injured or two stressed or something. Never enough to go around. We'll that's about the gist of it, and some in between —. I got out of the Army in May of 1971 and was not doing too good so my uncle and a friend convinced me, along with a few brews, that I should get out of "Dodge" while I still had my freedom. Can you believe this they actually got me signed up for the Coast Guard. I spent the next 21 years doing search and rescue, drug interdiction etc. Retired in Sept of 92 as a CWO3. I still thank my Uncle and friend even to this day even though they have crossed over the Bar. Thanks for listening.

DANIEL G. GATCHELL

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MRFA Vice President Reaches Out

MRFA VP John Sperry reaches out...

Dear Mr. Kaiser,

One of our members forwarded me your e-mail and I just wanted to say thank you for your kind comments they were certainly appreciated. We were recently inducted in the U.S. Navy Memorial in Washington, DC. This was the first time that an Army unit had been given this honor. Parts of the 9th Infantry Division worked with the Navy in Vietnam in the Mekong Delta as a Joint Riverine assault Task Force. At our ceremony at the Navy memorial one of our speakers a active duty Navy Captain spoke of his father having served with the 9th Infantry Division during World War II. It was a very caring an emotional speech.

We have a quarterly newsletter if you would like one I'd be glad to send you one.

Dear John,

Thank you so much for sending me the newsletter, and the memorial certificate and 9th Inf.. Division patch I am deeply grateful for you and your contemporaries for their service in Vietnam and in WW-II. As I stated my dad was in WW-II and a member of the 9th Infantry Division. The 9th had a reunion in Remagen, Germany in 1995 in remembrance of capturing the Remagen bridge in January 1945. There is know way I can express my gratitude to those Veterans that have served when their country called be it peace time or war. We owe the Veteran his just due. My Mother is now 87 years old now. My Father died in Fitzsimons Army hospital in January 1945 after serving in North Africa. Thanks again for your service.

Charles M. Kaiser, 750 Shaker Drive #411, Lexington. KY 40504

Mobile Riverine Force Association



www.mrfa.org

P.O. Box 706 • Elkhart Lake, WI 53020

Membership Application

New Member Renewal

CHANGE OF ADDRESS - MOVING

NAME: _____

STREET: _____

CITY: _____

STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

PHONE: () _____

E-MAIL: _____

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

Pre Vietnam Vietnam

Army Member:
Unit: _____

Navy Member:
Ship, Boat Hull No.
or Nav Det: _____

Associate Member

Donation: _____

Membership Rates:

1 Yr. \$10.00 3 Years \$27.50

To become a member, mail your check or money order (payable to MRFA) to:

George Marthenze, MRFA

P.O. Box 706 • Elkhart Lake, WI 53020

Please Note:

This form may be used for New Memberships, Renewals and Changes of Address. Please be sure to check the appropriate box.

The Mobile Riverine Force Association will be holding it's 2002 Reunion June 27, - June 30, in San Diego, CA.

We'll be staying at the Red Lion Hanalei Hotel in Mission Valley. Room rates are \$99 a night. Rates are good three days prior to, and three days following, the reunion. There will be a dedication ceremony of CCB-18 with speakers and guest Saturday June, 29th at 1300. You may want to start making your plans ASAP. Make your reservations by calling 1-800-882-0858. Be sure to mention you're making your reservations under the MRFA, our Group booking number is 2755. More info in upcoming issues of *River Currents* and on the web at www.mrfa.org. You can also contact Albert Moore at mrfa@charter.net; John Sperry at johnmrfa@rochester.rr.com; Bob VanDruff bvdmrfa@parod.com; or Roy Moseman moseman@aol.com. For more info on the hotel, contact Sales Manager Marla St. Clair at mstclair@hanaleihotel.com 1-800-700-3328. This is a full reunion not a mini or off year reunion. The web site for the Red Lion Hanalei is www.hanaleihotel.com. For information on the CCB-18 dedication please contact Don Blankenship at domb@tns.net.