



SABER

Published By and For the Veterans of the Famous 1st Cavalry Division



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THE PRESIDENT’S CORNER

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1CDA President 2023-2025



the command teams of the 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team and 1st Cavalry Division Artillery, along with their associated battalions.

The deployment is part of Operation Atlantic Resolve which provides rotational combat-credible forces to Europe to show our commitment to NATO while building readiness, increasing interoperability and enhancing the bonds between ally and partner militaries. Our division has a rich history of such global deployments – the Philippine Islands, South Korea, Vietnam, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Iraq, and Afghanistan. I’m proud to report that the “First Team” remains ready to fight anywhere, anytime, and win.

The ceremony brought back vivid memories of being on Cooper Field 34 years ago this fall as I participated in the casing ceremony that preceded the “First Team’s” deployment in support of what was then Operation Desert Shield. I took the opportunity to drive by the staging area, watching Troopers ready their vehicles for the coming mission. It seemed like yesterday.

Honors and Recognition.

As a part of the casing ceremony, CPT Clarence E. Clark (Ret) was presented the Distinguished Flying Cross for exceptionally meritorious service as an AH-1G Aircraft Commander and Aerial Artillery Section Leader with Battery F, 79th Artillery, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) on June 28, 1971 in the Republic of Vietnam. While his aerial artillery section was deployed to provide support to medical evacuation aircraft assisting ground forces in heavy contact with a large enemy force, CPT Clark led the way for the medical evacuation, braving the dangers of intense ground-to-air fire from small arms and rockets. When a medical ship was hit by enemy fire and forced down, CPT Clark risked his own life to place himself and his section in the direct line of enemy fire and remained there as a decoy while survivors of the crash were rescued. Twice more during the day, CPT Clark braved the intense enemy fire to place himself between the enemy and the medical evacuation teams, making numerous rocket assaults which inflicted many casualties on the enemy and account for the saving of several American lives. CPT Clark’s awards include the Distinguished Flying Cross with oak leaf cluster, two Bronze Stars, two Army Commendation Medals, one with V-device, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with silver and bronze stars, and Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with palm.



work that 1st Cavalry Division Veterans and community members have done for the Division and our community and stands proudly at the main entrance of the Division Headquarters. Going forward, your Association will be providing the yellow jackets. CONGRATULATIONS, DENNIS!

Well, that’s all for this edition. Remember, The Fort Knox Area Chapter invites you to join the rest of the First Team Family in Louisville, KY for the 76th Annual Reunion of the 1st Cavalry Division Association from 19-23 June 2024. All Life and Associate Members are welcome to attend this special event. Gold Star Families and Widows of our members are always welcome to attend.

See you at the Reunion in Louisville.

The 1st Cavalry Division – Courageous, Audacious, Victorious! Until we meet again, God bless you all. First Team



To the Troopers of America’s First Team,
Last week, I was privileged to attend

the 1st Cavalry Division Headquarters Color Casing ceremony on Cooper Field as the “First Team” prepared for its rotation to Europe in support of NATO and the U.S. European Command. The casing ceremony, a significant and time-honored Army tradition, marked a pivotal moment for our division, symbolizing its transition from a garrison environment to operating as a deployed force. Joining the Division Headquarters on the field were



HORSE DETACHMENT by CPT Daysha N. Wells, DVM, MPH-VPH, Commander

We are well into summer here at the Horse Cavalry Detachment. We have transitioned to our summer hours to exercise our mounts in the cooler temperatures of the morning in preparation for summer’s upcoming events. We have big plans this summer and will be traveling all over the state of Texas from Veterans Day celebrations and festivities in DFW to Mt Pleasant for the 60th Annual Mt Pleasant Rodeo demonstration. We will even make the trip to Arkansas for the Rodeo of the Ozarks.

It’s rodeo season! Come see us at some of the local rodeos and events such as the Belton 4th of July Parade and Rodeo, the Gatesville Rodeo, and the 25th Anniversary Audie Murphy Day Parade. Be sure to mark your calendars for the grand opening of the National Mounted Warrior Museum on July 10, 2024, where we will be giving barn tours and engaging with the public. We are also happy to announce, our Horse Cavalry Detachment Ball is scheduled for July 27, 2024. The HCD Ball is open to HCD members and supporters past and present. We hope to see you there!

The Horse Cavalry Detachment is always open to the public! Please come visit us at 69007 Trooper Lp Fort Cavazos for a barn tour or come by at 1000 hours on Thursday for our regularly scheduled mounted Cavalry demonstration. We appreciate the support that this amazing community shows us, and we look forward to our many continued partnerships supporting local civic events. Please check out the link on the First Cavalry Division Association’s website to make it easier to request the HCD to support an event in your area. We do ask that you have the request turned in for consideration 120 days before the event so that we have enough time to prepare. Please call (254) 287-2229 with any questions. Check us out on Facebook (1st Cavalry Division Horse Cavalry Detachment) where we post our current engagements, upcoming events, and ceremonies. HOT TO TROT!

THE DIRECTOR’S CHAIR

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April showers bring May flowers.... or in Texas’ case humidity, mosquitoes, and flooding. Here at the Association the month of May means reunion registration rates go up to \$50 after the 15th. May also means all reunion **cancellations are non-**

refundable.

Unfortunately, I had to switch the location for the Ladies Tea.... something about a wedding tying up the whole location, all day. Really a wedding? What kind of excuse is that!!

However, I called the **Kentucky Derby Museum** and an hour later, we were locked in for lunch and a museum tour. Rosemary Catering will be handling the cooking (nothing frozen or microwaveable) and I have chosen The California Lunch Buffet. Lunch starts at noon, leaving plenty of time to peruse the museum and shopping in the gift shop before the bus picks up at 2pm.

Once again, the President’s Reception will be held at Churchill Downs in Sky Terrace 4. This year there will be actual horses on the track...racing. I will adjust the time of return for those going to Elizabethtown that morning, so no one misses out on the evening’s adventure. Bring an appetite and your wallet.

The Association has teamed up with PCI (Publishing Concepts, LP) for an Oral History Publication Project. PCI is a family-owned business based in Dallas, TX that has published directories for educational institutions, fraternities, sororities, and military organizations across the nation for over 100 years. This project allows us to hear about your personal experiences from your time at 1st Cavalry Division. Members will receive an email or postcard from PCI asking for their personal information and a story about your time serving in the Division. Simply call the number provided to speak with a dedicated representative for the Oral History Project. They in turn will verify the information on file, make updates if needed, and ask you to share your story.

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ADDRESS
CHANGE

Don't Keep it a SECRET, Let us Know About It.
To submit by e-mail, send to memberships@1CDA.org
Clip and Mail to 1st Cavalry Division Association
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Last 4 #'s of your SSN _____

Tel: (____) _____

Rank and Name: _____

New Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

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SNOWBIRDS

If you have two addresses during the year, we need to know them. Please give us the dates and addresses for both households.
(Circle one) Winter Summer

Rank and Name: _____

LAST 4#s SSN: _____ DOB _____

1: Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Dates: _____ Tel: (____) _____

2: Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Dates: _____ Tel: (____) _____

1CDA EVENT CALENDAR

June 19-23, 2024 76th Annual 1CDA Reunion, Louisville, KY

Nov 9-11, 2024 15th Annual Veterans Day in Washington, D.C.

Feb 22, 2025 Board of Governor's Hybrid Meeting

June 11-15, 2025 77th Annual 1CDA Reunion, Reno, NV

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LOOKING FOR A LONG LOST BATTLE BUDDY?

If you have been searching for someone that you served with within 1st Cav, try posting it here.
Submit requests to
<Programs@1CDA.org> for the next Saber!



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ARTICLE SUBMISSION

Original, clear copies, typed or printed are accepted via e-mail at Programs@1CDA.org.

Articles should be received at National Headquarters no later than the 1st of every odd month. Any article received after the 1st of the month will be put in on a space available basis.

Opinions expressed are the writers and not necessarily those of the *Saber* or the 1st Cavalry Division Association.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR


To be considered for publication, letters should not exceed 300 words and should be of general interest and in good taste. Letters express the writer's opinion, not that of the *Saber* or the 1st Cavalry Division Association.

Political endorsement and poetry cannot be used. Form letters or third-party letters are not acceptable. Letters which contain libelous or obviously untrue statements will be automatically rejected.

All letters must be signed with addresses and telephone numbers included. Names will be used with the letters but addresses and phone numbers may be omitted. Letters also may be edited for length or clarification.

We reserve the right to reject for publication any letter received. Unused letters will not be acknowledged.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:



To the Scholarship Committee,
I am beyond words honored to have received this scholarship from the 1st Cavalry Division Association. It's more than simply money support; it's a heartfelt expression of encouragement and faith in my abilities and goals. This grant greatly reduces my financial load as I pursue my education, allowing me to concentrate more on my academics and less on how I'm going to pay for them.

It's a gift that celebrates the 1st Cavalry Division's legacy, pushes me to pursue excellence, and serves as a constant reminder of the power inherent in unity and community. I am truly grateful to all of the members and supporters of the 1st Cavalry Division Association. Your kindness encourages me to seize this chance and return the favor by supporting the community that has so kindly supported me in the future. This scholarship is more than simply a cash award; it's an investment in my future and a priceless validation of my goals.

Respectfully, Kevin Arellano



I am grateful to the 1st Cavalry Division Association and its donors for granting me their scholarship in my freshman year of study at Franciscan University of Steubenville in Steubenville, Ohio. For both semesters, this scholarship has been the difference between paying my bill and having to take out a loan.

When selecting a university, I wanted to prioritize my faith, rigorous academics, and the ability to play my sport, tennis. Franciscan University, being a private Catholic university, offers an education that forms the whole person and aligns with my Catholic faith. I have already seen so much growth in the short time I have been there, and that to me is worth every cent. Thanks to this foundation, I can pursue my goals of obtaining a bachelor's degree in biology and getting one step closer to becoming an Optometrist in an environment I can truly thrive in.

God Bless, Lauren Schoenberger

Consider making a donation to the Foundation to help a student achieve their educational goals.

CONSIDER DONATING TODAY



Culmination of treasured long lost stories or photos from our members.

Send your stories to Programs@1CDA.org

B Company, 1st Battalion, 5th Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division loses two company commanders and a battalion commander in a 12-hour period. by SGT Dan Whitson, B Co 1/5 June '67 to May '68, of Ohio

Operation Pegasus kicked off on April 1, 1968, with the goals of providing relief to the Marine post at Khe Sanh, reopen Highway 9 as a supply route to Khe Sanh and destroy North Vietnamese Army units in the Khe Sanh area. B Co 1/5, commanded by CPT Michael Nawrosky, was placed at LZ Wharton on April 3rd. LZ Wharton was south of Khe Sanh and Hwy 9 and we were to prevent NVA from moving further south from Khe Sanh. With no resistance at the initial landing, we improved our defensive positions for the remainder of the day.

Shortly after 10 pm on the 3rd approximately 25 artillery rounds hit LZ Wharton. The shelling lasted about 15 minutes and was fairly accurate. We had three KIA's within B Co: John Chambers, Raymond Dillon, and Matt Buono. Among the wounded was CPT Nawrosky with serious shrapnel wounds to the neck. Medevac would not be able to get in until morning.

After a tense night, the morning of April 4th found us fogged in on LZ Wharton. The fog would have to burn off before we could get medevac in to take the wounded out. LTC Leslie Runkle, commanding officer of 1st Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment, was at LZ Stud also under a heavy fog. Runkle was anxious to move the command center from LZ Stud to LZ Wharton and get the wounded extracted from Wharton.

WO1 Ronald Phears and WO1 Joe Moran along with Crew Chief Spec 5 Terry Baxter and gunner PFC Charlie Thomas volunteered to take Runkle to LZ Wharton. Runkle told his battalion assistant operations officer, CPT Joe Lyttle, to replace the wounded Nawrosky as CO of B Co Runkle also took CPT David Peters, his artillery liaison officer from 1st Battalion, 77th Artillery for the flight.

Once the fog lifted LZ Wharton was busy with medevac and resupply helicopters but the command helicopter with Runkle had not appeared. Previous attempts at radio contact were not answered. Shortly scouts from the 1st Battalion, 9th Cavalry confirmed what had been feared. The Huey with Runkle and the others had been shot down. The 2nd Battalion, 7th Cavalry Regiment was about 200 yds from the wreckage but pinned down by heavy small arms fire from the NVA. Runkle's Huey, flying just a couple of hundred feet above the ground because of the fog, had flown over an NVA force about the size of a battalion. Hundreds of automatic weapons opened up on the aircraft.

When the 2nd/7th reached the crash site they found the NVA had shot all the men whether they survived the crash or not except for CPT Lyttle. He was partially concealed by the helicopter and escaped execution. He was permanently paralyzed from the waist down by a gunshot that hit his spine.

As I recall, LT Moon, former 2nd platoon leader and now Executive Officer for B Co, came out to take command until another CO could be assigned. It was also around this time that the 2nd platoon gained a new platoon leader, LT Cole, and a new platoon sergeant, SSG Goodman. Like many platoons we were under strength, especially for junior officers and senior NCO's. Our platoon was led for a while by E-5 SGT Jim Dunnigan as platoon leader, E-5 SGT Dan Whitson as platoon sergeant and SPEC4 James Hill as the most experienced squad leader.

B Company continued to patrol the area around Khe Sanh and sometimes provide security at LZ Wharton. Things were fairly quiet for us until Sunday, April 14th. We had several perimeter positions hit during the night by a sapper squad. We suffered 8 KIA's and 6 wounded from satchel charges and small arms fire.

It was many years later before I learned that Sunday, April 14th was Easter Sunday. Early the week of April 15th the families of those 8 KIA learned their loved one had died on Easter Sunday. Those KIA were: Richard Anders, Jorge Castro, James Cochran, James Greb, Joseph Janowicz, Hector Marin-Ramos, James Pettitt and Eugene Walton. Greb and I arrived at B Co about the same time and went through the weeklong Cav school together before joining the unit in the field. The school was to show us how the Cav operated in the field such as patrols, ambushes, listening posts and what would be expected of us in the field. Greb went to 1st platoon and me to the 2nd. We would see each other from time to time to exchange greetings and that was about it.

Later, on the day of the 14th, we were air lifted into the actual Khe Sanh base. The Marines had been surrounded there for a couple months. What a mess! Broken down bunkers, rats as big as cats, litter everywhere, incoming fire all the time, couldn't send out patrols...not sure why we felt we had to keep that position. We stayed overnight and, on the 15th, they picked us up to make a combat assault on a hill close to Khe Sanh. We continued to move around a lot in the Khe Sanh area for the next few days and I went on a short R & R on April 23rd.

After rotating home in May of 1968, I was serving out the last few months in the service at Ft. Knox, KY when I read in the *Stars & Stripes* that CPT Nawrosky had died. He was at Walter Reed Hospital facing multiple surgeries to remove shrapnel from his neck and repair his damaged vocal cords. He died on July 6, 1968, after one of his operations, a little over three months after he was wounded.

Michael Robert Nawrosky graduated from Dumont High School in Dumont, NJ. He was an outstanding athlete, scholar, and leader. He joined the United States Military Academy Class of 1964 on July 5, 1960. Cadet Nawrosky had an impressive four years at West Point and was the brigade adjutant for the class of 1964. LT Nawrosky chose the infantry branch and attended Airborne School and then Ranger School.

After a 13-month deployment to Korea as a rifle platoon and then a mortar platoon leader he was assigned as aide-de-camp to the Commandant of cadets at West Point, a job traditionally offered to the army's most outstanding lieutenants. Shortly after being promoted to Captain, Mike volunteered for duty in

Continued to pg. 20

OIF / OEF VETERAN 1st Brigade Special Troops Battalion News

SSG Brandy Harvest SSG Kenneth Pannell
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**This column is a collection of stories submitted from
1BSTB Soldiers that served during OIF / OEF.**

By 12 November 2006, 1BSTB had all boots on the ground and conducted a 15-day Relief-In-Place (RIP) with the Phoenix Battalion (1STB, 1BCT, 4ID) from 15 November 2006 to 1 December 2006. The overall purpose of the RIP process was to facilitate Centurion's ability to take over full spectrum operations in the IRONHORSE Area of Operations. The execution of this process was crucial in ensuring that operational tempo and effectiveness was not compromised or diminished.

Coordination between the two units had been ongoing for more than six months prior to Centurion's deployment to facilitate the RIP. Operational TTP's and information regarding life support and equipment issues were exchanged and evaluated by the battalion's leadership for situational awareness. The Phoenix Battalion, commanded by LTC Cross and CSM Seaman, established and executed a detailed sequence of events and milestones that guaranteed a smooth transition.

The first component of RIP was the Left Seat Ride in which Phoenix maintained command and control of daily operations while Centurion observed closely. For the Soldiers who would conduct missions off the FOB, each patrol or security element had one or two Centurion Soldiers embedded. Soldiers were rotated every mission to ensure that all had an opportunity to gain an understanding of the operating environment. Companies conducted thorough equipment inventory and worked closely with their counterparts to ensure that they were set up for success.

Alpha Company quickly got their first taste of enemy contact at the Camp Taji airfield when they received indirect fire while conducting TUAV inventory on 22 November 2006. A 130mm rocket impacted only 400 meters from their location. No personnel were injured, and no equipment was damaged in the attack. MAJ McCauley, Alpha Company Commander, instantly reported the contact to the battalion TOC and executed the appropriate battle drill to ensure the safety of his Soldiers.

Credit to the Soldiers of the 1BSTB Battalion Yearbook 2006-2008 Publication



CPL RAY KIRBY LILLY

PRESS RELEASE | March 15, 2024

**Soldier Accounted for from Korean War
(Lilly, R.)**

Washington – The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) announced on March 15, 2024, that U.S. Army Corporal Ray K. Lilly, 18, of Matoaka, West Virginia, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for September 26, 2023.

In Nov 1950, Lilly was a member of L Company, 3rd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division. He went missing in action after his unit engaged in defensive actions in the vicinity of Unsan, North Korea, November 2, 1950. After Operation Big Switch, several returning prisoners of War (POWs), reported seeing CPL Lilly at POW Camp #5. It was later determined that Lilly died in captivity in January or February 1951.

In the fall of 1953, during Operation Glory, North Korea unilaterally turned over remains to the United States, including one set, designated Unknown X-14682. Those remains were reportedly recovered from prisoner of war camps, United Nations cemeteries and isolated burial sites. None of the remains could be positively identified as CPL Lilly. Those unidentified remains were subsequently buried as an Unknown in the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Honolulu.

In July 2018, the DPAA proposed a plan to disinter 652 Korean War Unknowns from the Punchbowl. In 2019 DPAA disinterred Unknown X-14682 as part of Phase Two of the Korean War Disinterment Project and sent the remains to the DPAA laboratory for analysis.

To identify Lilly's remains, scientists from DPAA used dental and anthropological analysis, as well as circumstantial evidence. Additionally, scientists from the Armed Forces Medical Examiner System used mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) analysis.

Lilly's name is recorded on the Courts of the Missing at the Punchbowl, along with the others who are still missing from the Korean War. A rosette will be placed next to his name to indicate he has been accounted for.

Lilly will be buried in Princeton, West Virginia, on a date to be determined. For family and funeral information, contact the Army Casualty Office at (800) 892-2490.

To see the most up-to-date statistics on DPAA recovery efforts for those unaccounted for from the Korean War, go to the Korean War Accounting page on the DPAA website at:

<https://dpaa-mil.sites.crmforce.mil/dpaaFamWebKorean>.

For additional information on the Defense Department's mission to account for Americans who went missing while serving our country, visit the DPAA website at <www.dpaa.mil>, find us on social media at <www.facebook.com/dodpaa> or <www.linkedin.com/company/defense-pow-mia-accounting-agency>.

Lilly's personnel profile can be viewed at <<https://dpaa-mil.sites.crmforce.mil/dpaaProfile?id=a0Jt00000004mETEAY>>.



LRRP/Ranger News



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Team Leader and Mentor by Dr. Robert Ankony, SSG, 1967

It was last light, and my front scout, Gair Anderson, my assistant team leader, Bruce Cain, and I were each placing a claymore mine facing an enemy trail. It was a well-used trail, four miles west-southwest of Quang Tri City, and we had heard enemy troops only the night before, casually talking as they walked along. We were confident that more enemy troops would return. Then, just as we slipped in the detonators, a dark figure suddenly appeared on another trail, a hundred feet away.

It was Friday, July 19, 1968—my second patrol as team leader of a long-range reconnaissance patrol, and already my second enemy contact. In the first incident, eleven nights earlier, our five-man team had run head-on into an enemy patrol. Gair had quickly fired a long burst into the patrol's lead, and we retreated into the jungle. But this time, we had only a small spit of ground and the Quang Tri River behind us, so we had to fight.

As the three of us stood there, struggling to see in the fading light, the unknown figure, apparently unsure who we were, stopped, stepped back, and slightly raised his rifle. Gair was closest, and Bruce the farthest back, Gair glanced at Bruce and me, and seeing that everyone was still in position, he raised his rifle, aimed, and cracked off a shot, which sent the guy sprawling backward. But he was in an upright slouch, still facing us and looking alive enough that I raised my CAR-15, flicked the selector to auto, and emptied my twenty-round magazine in two long bursts of tracers that swept across his legs and chest.

I was worried that the soldier could be the lead of a much larger force, so we threw grenades past him, and I got on the radio with our tactical operations center to notify them of the contact.

TOC replied, "Are you still at your same position, lad?" Commo check LZ Betty. Montagnard scouts, Cpls. Pong and Puk, SGT Parkinson, and me



Commo check LZ Betty. Montagnard scouts, Cpls. Pong and Puk, SGT Parkinson, and SSG Ankony

"That's a negative. We're a hundred meters south," I replied, recognizing the calm, comforting voice of my former team leader and mentor, SGT Douglas Parkinson. He was serving his last weeks in TOC, providing vital expertise to the teams in the field before returning home.

"Okay, Five Nine, stand by," Parkinson said. "I have Six Two Alpha on the land line and a red team saddling up, over."

Six Two Alpha was our platoon commander, and a red team was a hunter-killer team of two helicopters. A moment later, Parkinson came back on the radio and said, "Prepare for an extraction, lad. Six Two Alpha has a slick and two gunships in route, over."

"Roger. We have a Papa Zulu [pickup zone (an area clear of trees, suitable for helicopter evacuation)] right in front of us," I said, giving the handset back to my radioman.

Time was critical for my team as we retreated into the remnants of vegetation at the Quang Tri River loop. What once had been beautiful countryside with scattered homes and rice paddies was now a wasteland of bomb and shell craters, with leafless palm trunks jutting up at odd angles. First, young Japanese men had come here to fight, then young Frenchmen, and now five young Americans who had just killed a young Vietnamese man.

On enemy turf, with our backs against the river and under an overcast moonless sky, our only contact with the outside world was our twenty-three-pound PRC-25 radio. And I was in contact with the one man who best knew the terrain, my team, and me, for he had trained us all. He also knew that the enemy usually attacked at dusk, when they still had visibility to maneuver but we would have a tough time getting aircraft to respond timely and precisely, and an even tougher time directing artillery.

A few minutes later, the helicopters arrived. We directed their minigun and rocket fire, and seconds later the Huey descended between us and the enemy soldier, and we ran out of the tree line as long lines of bright-red tracers sailed from both gunships. Reaching the Huey, we jumped onto the skids and vaulted inside as the gunships quickly swung their fire around to our flanks, then underneath as we climbed. Minutes later, we were safely back at TOC with Doug.

Doug Parkinson was a college grad from California with a degree in wildlife management, who had worked with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game before entering the Army. He was also a graduate of the U.S. Army's Fifth Special Forces Recondo School, who guided his team like a loving father. Doug never yelled or got petty; he believed that real leaders made requests. Even in

the most difficult circumstances, he could find a way to smile and laugh, yet he had the warrior's ethos of taking the fight to the enemy, whatever the terrain. He was and is one of the finest men I've ever known.

I first met Doug when I was assigned to his team as the radio-telephone operator at Landing Zone English, near the Vietnamese coastal village of Bong Son. It was Thursday, January 11, 1968, and the war was escalating fast, so our unit, the First Air Cavalry Division, was sent north to help the Marines. We arrived at Quang Tri City, near the DMZ, in mid-January, and our platoon and a few others built a rudimentary landing zone inside the remnants of a destroyed French camp from an earlier time. That was when the largest battle of this war, the Tet Offensive, swept across South Vietnam, killing 1,000 Americans, 14,000 civilians, and more than 32,000 enemy troops, 900 of them just outside our landing zone when they attacked Quang Tri City.

After Tet, I went on my first patrol with Doug. There, in the triple-canopy mountain jungle and sparsely vegetated flatlands outside Quang Tri City, I learned his cautious and deliberate ways of patrolling. Though he was only 25, we respectfully referred to him as "the old man" because of his experience and our own youth. I was 19.

On my fourth patrol with Doug, our team was inserted deep into enemy-held territory: Base Area 101—operations base for the North Vietnamese Army's battle-tested Tenth Sapper Battalion and the 812th Infantry Regiment. The weather was gorgeous, and so was the terrain: 600-foot rolling forested hills and broad, sweeping grasslands. But the enemy heard our insertion and were trying to track us. We were hidden on top of a hill and watched them advance into the grassland, looking for us. As the team's radioman, I listened while Doug calmly directed scout helicopters at enemy soldiers, killing the lead man of one group, who boldly wore a bright greenish-blue U.S. Air Force flight jacket and carried a shiny new AK-47.

But the enemy kept returning, even after helicopter gunships attacked with rockets and machine guns, until they reached the foot of our hill and slowly encircled us. Doug directed a battery of 105mm howitzers against the advancing troops hidden in the woods below, but they never stopped. I could hear them below, and suddenly the reality of war was clear: they knew where we were, and it was their turn to kill.

Doug fired his 40mm M79 grenade launcher into likely areas of their advance and directed us to throw grenades down the hill as our artillery continued to pound their positions on one side of the hill. And just when it seemed that we were done and Doug could do no more, one of the howitzers mistakenly dropped its rounds short, causing explosions on both sides of our hill. The enemy, perhaps stunned by the overwhelming explosions or perhaps uncertain of our exact position, stopped advancing. It was all the window that Alpha Troop, First Squadron, Ninth Cavalry, our division's premier aerial reconnaissance and quick-reaction force, needed to come to our rescue.

I made other patrols with Doug at Dong Tri, an eight-mile-wide 3,300-foot mountain that we climbed from bottom to top, each carrying ninety pounds of gear. This was outside the Marine combat base at Khe Sanh, during the North Vietnamese Army's seventy-seven-day siege—the second-biggest battle of the war, and the most heavily bombed area on earth. I also served with Doug on Signal Hill, the remote 5,000-foot peak of Dong Re Lao in A Shau Valley, bordering Laos. There, our platoon performed a daring long-range penetration into the most formidable enemy sanctuary in South Vietnam.

From A Shau, I got sent to Recondo School and was made a team leader. And when I made enemy contact on my first patrols, Doug was at TOC to get us safely out.

Doug returned home and married his college sweetheart, Gabrielle, and is now a senior biologist conducting environmental research in remote areas of the Pacific Northwest. He has a daughter, Tricia, and a son, Brandon. Doug stayed in contact all those years since the war, and he calls me every April 19, the anniversary of the First Cavalry Division's assault into A Shau Valley.

When I completed my PhD in 1997 and was getting into writing, Doug said, "Bob, get the story out and let people know what happened in Vietnam, or the men we lost will just disappear." I took his words to heart. The first thing I wrote was an article for Vietnam magazine, titled "Perspectives." When my daughter, Catherine, graduated from the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs in 2004, Doug was there. He said, "I couldn't miss it—passing the torch is something every generation of Soldiers owes the next."



Gair Anderson, Robert Ankony, and Doug Parkinson

"My team leader, Doug Parkinson, who led me through each of those battles, asked me to say, 'Be kind to your men. Because you never know—one day, one of them just might write a book about you.'"

Read more of his stories at <<https://www.robertankony.com>>

After my book *Lurps: A Ranger's Diary of Tet, Khe Sanh, A Shau, and Quang Tri* was published, the U.S. Army Rangers invited me to be guest speaker at the 2006 Reconnaissance and Surveillance Leaders Course in Fort Benning, Georgia. I closed my speech to the young combat leaders and Veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan with these words:

**PLEASE CONTACT THE SCRIBE ABOVE
TO SHARE YOUR
LRRP RANGER STORIES!**



5th CAV News

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**PLEASE CONTACT THE SCRIBE ABOVE TO
SHARE YOUR 5TH CAV STORIES!**

Greetings fellow Troopers! There have been some things going on since last you heard from me. **Atlee McFellin** gave us a shout. He was a platoon leader in the 2nd Plt of one of 2/5s company's but did not say which one. Some of you old timers may remember him. He was there in late '69.

Jose Fragoso has been working hard to get the new 5th Cav Association web-site up and although this old, low-tech guy was not able to give it a good look, I understand it is ready, or soon will be. We hope in the near future all of you can check it out.

I have not had much feedback about how the Task Force Lancer reunion/memorial went but did see a post of some video. What I could see looked good.

One of the things I enjoy about being involved with the 5th Cav is the long line of very good people that I have discovered that have made a great difference in the world and also in the 5th Cav. We plan to have several documents up on the website that help underscore that point including a list of commanders of the regiment up to 1964 just before we went Air Mobile.



Gene Russell at The Wall in D.C.

Also making that point, but in a more solemn tone is a note from Gordon Tillery. He has been involved with the 1st Cav Division Association Chapter in Washington D.C. His note was on the passing of a distinguished member of the 5th Cav, COL Gene Russell who served in 1/5 in '69 and '70. What follows is a condensed version of the Colonel's career.

Eugene Neal Russell, Colonel US Army (Retired) March 29, 1939 – March 29, 2024. The nation lost a superb Soldier: a man who served with courage, honor, and tenacity; who always helped Soldiers; and a good friend of too many to count, Eugene "Gene" Russell. Gene passed away on March 29, 2024, after being hospitalized repeatedly over the past several years. He died peacefully having asked for no special medical measures. March 29th was Good Friday, and also the National Vietnam War Veterans Day. In addition, that date was Gene's 85th birthday. His wife, Sharon, and their daughters Gretchen and Peggy read his

birthday cards to him and were with him when he passed at 2:10 pm.

Raised in Columbus, Ohio, Gene entered the ROTC program at The Ohio State University and graduated in 1961 with a business degree and was commissioned in the US Army as a 2nd Lieutenant in the Infantry. For 26 years, Gene served in Infantry and Special Forces assignments in the 4th Infantry Division (Mechanized) at Fort Carson; in Vietnam with the 5th Special Forces Group in the Central Highlands, 1964-65, and with the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), 1969-70; in the 5th Infantry Division at Fort Polk (now Fort Johnson); and commanding the 3rd Battalion, 7th Special Forces Group at Fort Gulick, Panama, 1979-82. He taught maneuver tactics to Field Artillery students at Fort Sill (during which time he and a roommate went on a hunting trip to Colorado, where he met his future bride Sharon Anne Gygli), and to Combat Engineers at Fort Leonard Wood. He was the Professor of Military Science at the University of Wisconsin in Oshkosh (where he earned an MBA) and was an advisor to the British Army in England. Gene attended: Infantry Branch schools at Fort Benning (now Fort Moore); Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth; Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center at the Presidio of Monterey; and the National War College in Washington DC.

Gene completed his distinguished Army career in key assignments on the Army Staff and Joint Staff in the Pentagon. During his second combat tour in Vietnam, 1969-70, with the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), Gene was assigned to 1st Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment. Gene was the Battalion S-3 (Operations Officer) and planned and supervised all tactical missions; then, Gene became the Battalion XO (Executive Officer). Gene told fellow 1st Cav Veterans that being the Battalion XO in combat was his toughest and most rewarding assignment, specifically planning the battalion's logistics and transportation for President Nixon's "incursion" into Cambodia in May 1970. The battalion achieved great success capturing large depots filled with North Vietnamese Army weapons, ammunition, equipment, and food stockpiled in Cambodia. The loss of those stocks severely disrupted North Vietnamese Army operations against US and South Vietnamese forces. One of Gene's responsibilities as Executive Officer was construction of Fire Support Bases from which 1st of the 5th operated. Among those was FSB David in Cambodia, on which 1st of the 5th successfully repelled heavy ground attacks by the NVA; Gene's defensive measures employed in the design of the base helped. After Cambodia, Gene joined the 1st Cavalry Division G-3 (Operations) staff, directing warfighting for the entire division.

Following his stellar career in Army uniform, Gene formed his own consulting firm and worked in defense industry to support Special Operations, Counter-Drug, and Counter-Terrorism missions. Gene enjoyed a reputation as an Army leader who took care of Soldiers as they completed their missions. That reputation followed him into retirement, since 2002 he supported disabled war Veterans and their families. Gene initiated the "Katz Deli Feed," serving food from a

famous New York delicatessen to wounded warriors at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. Gene arranged for members of his church in Northern Virginia to send care packages to Troops serving overseas and took the lead in organizing church efforts to aid wounded warriors and families, including interpreters from Afghanistan and Iraq who resettled in our country. Gene and his church raised funds to install a big-screen TV in the Family Support Center at Fort Belvoir, VA, where classes were conducted for wounded Soldiers, and he arranged to provide books to the Support Center library. Gene organized fishing trips, skeet shooting, and picnics for the wounded.

In recognition of such acts, Gene was named the "Humanitarian of the Year" in 2013 by the Air Warrior Courage Foundation (whose primary purpose is to assist disabled/needy war Veterans); Gene also served as a member of the Foundation's Board of Directors. For several years, Gene was Executive Director of the National War College Alumni Association. This prestigious position enabled Gene to recruit excellent speakers for meetings of the 1st Cavalry Division Association's Washington DC Chapter. That chapter had lapsed due to low membership. Gene stepped in and, with another 1CD Veteran, moved the Chapter to a more central meeting location (Springfield's American Legion Post 176), aggressively recruited local 1CD Veterans to join the chapter, brought good speakers to meetings, and brought the chapter into wounded warrior activities Gene had initiated. A Chapter highlight each year on Veteran's Day was the 1CD Association wreath presentations at the WWII, Korea, and Vietnam war memorials on the National Mall, and the annual dinner for 1CD Veterans. Under Gene's leadership, the Chapter supported the Association's activities. As Chapter President, he also championed renaming the Washington DC chapter to be the William A. Richardson National Capital Region Chapter, honoring one of the founders of the 1st Cavalry Division Association who was a long-time member of the Chapter.

Gene was blessed to be married to Sharon Anne Gygli Russell. After meeting in Colorado in 1967, they married a year later and have two wonderful girls, Gretchen Russell, and Peggy Howard, and two grandchildren, Ginger and Lucy Howard. Gene Russell was an outstanding Soldier and friend, always calm under pressure; his benevolent character endeared him to everyone he met. COL (Ret) Gene N. Russell will be interred at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date. The memorial page can be found at: <<https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/springfield-vs/eugene-russell-11750032>>

NEW MEMBERS:

- MR. AKE, ROBERT TX 171 L-ASSOC
- SPC ANDREWS, PHILIP AR HHBN
- SSG ARELLANO, GUIDO TX HHC 1-7C
- SFC ARRIOLA, MANUEL TX 1-1CDH
- SPC BADWAL, SHIRIN SIDHU TX 1CD
- SP-4 BAKER, RALPH CA 2-19FA
- SP-4 BECKLER, RALPH CA 2-19FA
- SFC BLANCHARD, BRODERICK TX HHBN
- MR. CALHOUN, DEWEY TX A 1-8ENG
- SGT DAVIS, RICHARD MO 1-9C
- MR. DORSEY, WILLIAM GA 1-9C
- SSG (RET) ENDTER, ROBERT D. TX HHC 1-13SIG
- COL FILEDS, RICK FL E 1-82FA
- SGT FLOYD, ZACHARY TX HHC 2-7C
- 1SG FRALICK, NATHAN TX E 1-1ACB
- SGT FUENTES, OSCAR NY C 1-82FA
- 1LT GOAD, PAUL WV C 8ENG
- 1SG GONZALEZ, DAVID CO A 2-12C
- E-3 GREER, DAVID TX HHC 1-8C
- SSG HANSEN, ROBERT TX B 1-553CSSB
- WO1 HARDIN, JERRY N F. TX B 1-15BSB
- MS. HIMES, TRACY NC 1459 ASSOC
- LTC (RET) KEELER, JOHN AZ B 1-227AHB
- E-5 LEWIS, PHIL RAY AZ B 1-227AVN
- SSG LIBBY, MARC Z. TX 3BDB
- PFC MAKOWSKI, JAMES IN 1-21FA
- SPC MARTINEZ, BAYRON TX G 1-12C
- SFC MARTINEZ, ROBERTO TX 2-272MP
- 2LT MILLER, BRADY TX 1-215BSB
- SGM MILLION, WILLIAM TX HHHC 1-1ACB
- SP-4 NORTON, CLEVELAND E. JR CA B 2-20ARA
- SPC ORUIM, TRENTON L. TX 1-3ABCT
- SP-5 PEKECH, DAN AZ A 2-20ARA
- MAJ PETERSON, DUANE CA A 2-20ARA
- PFC POLLACK-HOYT, LUCAS TX 3ACB
- E-4 RAGTERY, KEVIN FL 15MED
- PV2 RAMOS, KEVIN TX 2-7C
- E-5 RED HORN, DONISE ND HHB 4-5ADA
- SGT RIGHTON, RON CA HHC 1ACB
- SPC SANCHEZ MORALES, BRYAN TX HHC 2-7C
- MR. SHEERS, BILL PA 1458 ASSOC
- SPC SIGSTON, RYAN C TX 4-9C
- SFC SMITH, BRUCE OH HHC 1-54MP
- CW2 TAYLOR, AARON AZ 3-227AHB
- SSG THRALL, NATHANAEL AZ HHC 1-4BCT
- E-5 TRUE, EVERETT R. CA A 1-8C
- SSG TURLEY, CEDJAHNAI K. LA HHB 1ACB
- SGT WILCOX, GONZALES PA 2-5C
- SFC WILLIAMS, JULIUS TN B 2-8C
- SSG WRIGHT, WILLIAM FL B 229AHB
- E-5 ZELLER, CHARLES JR. DE 1-32ARM



WELCOME
to the 1CDA TEAM!

12th CAV News



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SALUTE and SEMPER PARATUS! Always ready to stand to even after an 18-day stand down in the Villages Medical Hospital, 2 April-19 April. Was rushed to emergency at 830 am on April 2. Just finished breakfast, took my meds and an intense sweat and vomiting assaulted me. Headed for the bathroom, and along the way peed and messed on myself as a fever overcame me. A few minutes into that ordeal Maggie decided 911 was the order of the moment. Arriving at the emergency room, blood pressure checked at 261/200. Sugars at 311, and temperature at 102.5. Needless to say, was headed to the other side. Once checked into ICU it became a daily routine of blood tests, x-rays, pokes and prods and surgery for bowel blockages and general intestinal debris removal. On IV feed for 14 of those days, morphine, and opioid pain relievers, I am still a bit hazy from after being released 20 April. Thus, a shortened column of general information.

LOSS OF 2 TROOPERS SINCE MAR-APR COLUMN:

Gary R. Rhodes, Charlie Company, 1st Battalion (ABN) 12th Cavalry, 1965-67, crossed over 4 March 2024. After military service he served the U.S. Army in a Civil Service capacity. He further served the FL community as a Miami Beach Policeman, Clay County, FL Sheriff, and Deputy of Defense. A Celebration of Life Memorial Service was held at Meadowlawn Funeral Home 12 March 2024, New Port Richey, FL. Four C Company Troopers Martell Swain, Dave Wenzel, David and Marianty Muniz, Thomas and Maggie Crabtree attended the service in support of the Rhodes family. Gary was interred 19 April 2024 in Bushnell Florida National Cemetery with full Honors. In attendance were C Company brothers Martell Swain, Dave Wenzel, John Spranza, David Muniz, and Ben Dubose (Boot to Boot Brothers).



Martell and Terri Rhodes



Rhodes Interment Bushnell FL National Cemetery L-R Spranza, Wenzel, DuBose, Swain, Muniz

Jerry Richards, Delta Company, 1st Battalion, 12th Cavalry, 1967-68 of Bel-pre, OH, crossed over 21 March 2024, suddenly and unexpectedly. Not much information was provided to us about his services and interment. In the early 2000s, Jerry was a constant presence at the Division and 12th Cavalry Reunions. We are sorry to hear of his passing and our condolences to his family. One of my best memories of Jerry is at one of the Division Reunions in Ft Hood, we cut an Army birthday cake together with Sabers. We will see you at Fiddlers' Jerry.

TRIBUTE TO OUR BROTHERS ON THE WALL 5-17-15:

I leave this letter for all to see so they will know what these names and reflections mean to me. I come to this solemn place with a heavy heart and deep respect to see how we Honor those we have lost, that served and protect Our Country called to do a tough and dirty job in a country far away, Oh My God what a price we paid! That cost still goes on today for so many. When I came back to the world, I was met with gladness, joy, and thankfulness that my wound wasn't that bad. But that's not what happened to many more, the country has changed, and we need to get that behind us, but for some that treatment memory will forever last. I've tried to live my life with honor and respect, in hopes that my reflection would reflect good for those names and reflections that didn't get the chance that I did, to raise a family, get a good job and to compete in this old world. When days are long and going get tough, and aches and pains of growing old are there, I think of you and that all seems pretty small! I'll never forget where I've been or my trip to The Wall as I will never forget those who gave their all! All these Names and Reflections have a Face!

"God Bless and Keep You!"

Gary Vickers, Missouri, SSGT 11 Bravo, D-1-12 1st Cav 68-69

HEADS UP REUNION REMINDERS

76th Annual 1st Cavalry Division Association Reunion-June 19-24, 2024, Louisville, KY, Crowne Plaza Louisville, 830 Phillips Lane 40209, Louisville, KY 866-888-0620

19th Annual 12th Cavalry Reunion September 10-14, 2024, Branson, MO, Branson Hillside Hotel (formerly the Welk our favorite LZ). Reservations-Andrea-417-527-4369

Room rates \$109.00 per night 2 per room (includes breakfast buffet). Room rates will apply 2 days before and 2 days after scheduled dates. Wednesday: Welcome Reception, Thursday: Hits of the 60s, Friday: open day, Saturday: Banquet. Call Fred Wilson 740-331-1814 for further details. See you all there. I will not make the Louisville Reunion, will be in rehab (TLC)!

I want to thank all the brothers who helped me through my ordeal. Your calls, text messages, emails carried me through even though I was in another dimension and could not respond, was good to know we were 'Boot to Boot.' Thank you for your prayers and concerns!

Next column we will resume stories. Until then-"May the Chief Chopper Pilot Hover over us, the Original Paratrooper correct our Parachute Malfunctions, the Head Point Man keep us in the Assigned AO!"

DIVISION DOINGS:

Courageous and Faithful: 1-1 CAV SODN 'Blackhawks' Celebrate 191 Years in Europe

by SPC Trevaes Johnson

JAWORIZE, Poland – In the Baltic region of northwestern Poland, 725 kilometers from the Belarus - Ukraine border, the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, celebrated its 191st birthday at Logistical Support Area South, Poland on March 2, 2024.



Command Team, Polish CDR & youngest Soldier in unit cuts the cake

Currently deployed to the European theater to support Operation European Assure Deter and Reinforce, the squadron marked the occasion with a festive gathering that brought together the camaraderie and tradition the cavalry is known for.

The 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment, boasting a rich history dating back to the Mexican American War fought in 1846, has been a known force across various theaters of conflict. The unit played vital roles in the Spanish American War, the Philippine Insurrection, World War II, Vietnam, and the Global War on Terrorism.

Speaking at the birthday celebration, U.S. Army LTC Andrew Betson, the squadron commander, reflected on the squadron's legacy and significance.

"The Blackhawks have a storied history of resilience and bravery, standing tall in the face of adversity across generations. As we celebrate the Blackhawks' 191st birthday, it's a moment to honor the sacrifices of those who came before us and our commitment to the mission."

A non-commissioned officer in the squadron, U.S. Army SSG Kameron Kirk, a cavalry scout, shared insights into the challenges and triumphs experienced during the deployment. "Being part of this unit means being part of something larger than oneself. It's about duty, honor, and a sense of camaraderie. Our mission here in Europe is important, and every Blackhawks scout understands their role in making sure we are successful."

The birthday celebration highlighted the squadron's legacy. It served as a moment of calmness for the Soldiers, a break from the demanding tasks associated with Operation European Assure Deter and Reinforce.

Betson further emphasized the importance of recognizing the squadron's contributions throughout history. "Our legacy is not just a collection of dates and battles; it's a living testament to the resilience and determination displayed by our streamers. Whether in Vietnam, the Gulf War, or our current deployment in Europe, we continue to uphold the proud legacy of the cavalry."

As the squadron faces the challenges of modern warfare in the European theater, the echoes of past victories resonate in the minds of its Troops.

The Blackhawks remain committed to its mission, embodying the spirit of the cavalry's "eyes and ears" role within the 1st Armored Division.

The celebration, marking 191 years of existence and one of the oldest units in the U.S. Army, symbolized the squadron's ongoing commitment to duty and honor. And as the cavalry saying goes, "If you ain't cav', you ain't..." a sentiment that encapsulates the pride and dedication of being a Blackhawks Troop as they conclude their mission in Europe.

The 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team maintains many combat-capable forces in Europe. It exists to deter aggression; if deterrence fails, stand shoulder-to-shoulder with our Allies and partners against that aggression. The 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, is forward deployed to Europe in support of the 3rd Infantry Division, V Corps at Drawsko Combat Training Center, Poland.

"First Team" Cases Its Colors

by SGT Alex Romey
FORT CAVAZOS, Texas – The 1st Cavalry Division Headquarters held a casing of colors ceremony at Cooper Field on Fort Cavazos, Texas, on April 25, in preparation for its upcoming rotation to Europe.

The "First Team" will replace the 3rd Infantry Division Headquarters from Fort Stewart, Georgia. This is part of a regular rotation of forces, a crucial commitment to supporting the United States' role in NATO. The rotation ensures that our allies and partners are consistently supported.

The casing ceremony, a significant and time-honored Army tradition, marks a pivotal moment for the unit. It symbolizes the transition from a garrison environment, as they roll up the unit guidon and case it in preparation for the deployment. This ceremony is a testament to the unit's readiness and commitment. Once they have arrived at the deployed area of responsibility and are prepared to assume their mission, they will hold an unofficial uncasing ceremony.

"CSM Jackson and I are honored to lead this historic formation," said MG Kevin D. Admiral, the Division Commanding General. "And to add to a new chapter as we deploy to Europe."

MG Kevin D. Admiral and CSM LeVares J. Jackson Sr. cased the Headquarters colors on Cooper Field, with the colors presented by the professional Troops of the 1st Cavalry Division Honor Guard. Joining the Division Headquarters on the field, were the command teams of the 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team and 1st Cavalry Division Artillery, along with their associated battalions.

"I am confident that the First Team's Troops are ready. I look forward to serving with you on this deployment," said the Admiral. "We will also strengthen our relationships with our allies across Europe as we continue building readiness and lethality at the echelon. It's a great team; it's our team; we are the First Team."

The Color Casing ceremony included an award ceremony, as CPT Clarence E. Clark (Ret) was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for his meritorious service as an AH-1G Aircraft Commander and Aerial Artillery Section Leader in 1971.

The 1st Cavalry Division has a rich history of global deployments. The division has demonstrated its readiness and capability in the Philippine Islands, South Korea, Vietnam, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Iraq, and Afghanistan. Today, as the Army's premier Armored Division, it continues to deploy in support of NATO and the United States European Command. The deployment is part of the Atlantic Resolve mission to reassure our allies and strengthen international partnerships. The "First Team" remains ready to fight anywhere, anytime, and win.

Continued to pg. 11

Contact the scribe to share your 12th Cav stories!
If you were ever a part of 12th CAV, join their
Association <www.12thCav.com>
SUPPORT YOUR UNIT LEGACY!

7th CAV News



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Greetings, Garryowen Troopers! Welcome to the May/June issue of 7th Cav News.

>I don't know about the rest of you folks but I'm starting to get tired of all this negatively charged media from the predatory press. The news hasn't been news since 1972 when the FCC caved in to the network lobbyists and changed the rules of the game to favor profits over truth and entertainment over information. The big network production organizations discovered the pot of gold at the end of the advertising rainbow in the form of Chicken Little catastrophe shows, ultra-partisan politics, the effective application of all types of propaganda, negative political campaigning, and cleverly worded destruction-and-disaster click bait of one sort or another constantly dominating the headlines. It grows more intense. War, murder, chaos, mayhem, and those pesky aliens sneaking past our borders in their UFOs. The exaggeration never stops. Winter storm warnings in effect! Duck and cover! Sharks and Jets! Hawks and Doves! If you believed what you are told to believe, you would think that our world is a wreck, our economy is shot, we are all being picked on, and our Great Society is in danger of going tribal.

But then, every once in a great while, my grumpy demeanor is erased and my lost hope for our species is restored when I see the best of human nature rising to the top; when kindness, loyalty, gratitude, and a sense of duty come together to remind us that there really are "Better Angels," and that the bonds forged in combat are never broken. That's what this story is about:



Ed Fisher UH1

>This is the story of two Garryowen Soldiers, both of whom went above and beyond what most people think of as generosity. It's a story of a 7th Cav Veteran, COL (Ret) Edward Fisher, who became the recipient of an unexpected offer, the purpose of which Fisher said was to "show appreciation for what Fisher had done for him." COL Fisher as a captain led Bravo company, 1/7 Cav, 1st Cavalry Division (Air Mobile) in heavy

combat during the Vietnam War in 1968 and, unbeknownst to him, left a lasting impression on one of the Soldiers under his command.

Over half a century later, this altruistic ex-grunt, who has chosen to remain anonymous, wanted to express his gratitude for Fisher's exemplary leadership and, after lots of research and serious detective work, finally managed to locate him. He called. Incredibly, COL Fisher remembered him right away. "Sure, I remember you," Fisher said. "You were the FTC that went to work for the general." The ex-Soldier explained that it was Fisher's example as a great leader that started him on a path that brought him considerable financial success. Now he wanted to do something for his ex-CO, something in return for his transformational leadership. Fisher responded that he needed nothing at all for himself but agreed to let the man donate to a charity. Fisher said, "I decided on St. Jude because I like what they do for kids. (The donor) said that he would take care of it." A week later Fisher received a certificate from Saint Jude Children's Research Hospital notifying him that a man who wishes to stay totally anonymous had donated \$100,000 to the hospital in Fisher's name. Both COL Fisher and the unnamed Soldier have created a bright spot in a sometimes-dismal world with their twin acts of charity. Well done, gentlemen. You both set an example we would all do well to aspire to.

>Randy Sutton Sr. reports the passing of SGT Issac (Ike) Hamilton who served with A 1/7th Cav February 1968-February 1969. He was the 2nd platoon gun squad leader and always supported Alpha Company with superior fire power whenever needed. He was from Chattanooga, Tennessee and passed away from Agent Orange related cancer at the age of 78 on February 17, 2024. Issac is pictured in this photo from an Alpha Company reunion held in Ohio in 2009.



Randy Sutton

Garryowen! SGT Issac Hamilton.

>Marc "Doc" Levy - Delta 1/7 Cav '70 - is an accomplished writer best known as the author of *Medic In The Green Time*, a widely-read book that pulls no punches as it describes not only the horror of the Vietnam War but also the thoughts and emotions of those 20-year-olds who suddenly found themselves in the occupation of killing people. This is serious stuff, disturbing at times. It also has the most in-depth description of the battle



Steve York cleaning the gun. Song Be, Apr 70

for LZ Ranch that has ever been written, as seen through the eyes of the men who fought there. Marc sent this in:

>Last week I heard from Delta 1/7 Cav machine gunner Steve York, last seen on LZ Ranch in 1970, where he was hit a few days before the base was overrun. I remember running to him, running back to get my M16 and ammo, returning, slapping a bandage on his neck. Steve told me it was his carotid artery. Two or three times he said I saved his life. News

to me! Steve was on the hill with his ammo bearer, John Cichon ("Johnny B" in Best of Medic), when a nervous LOACH door gunner opened up, shooting John's arm and leg. I didn't know that bullets from the LOACH gunner bounced off Steve's M60 and wounded him too. Since it was friendly fire---no Purple Heart. Friendly fire again when I patched him up on Ranch. I always thought it was shrapnel, but Steve said it was a single pellet from a Claymore the NVA had turned around and blown on us. We talked for 45 minutes. In my mind Steve was still the thin hollow-eyed grunt humping the gun but now he's seventy-five now and married to a neurologist. WTF, over! They met at the bar. >Check out Marc's website. <<http://medicinthegreentime.com/>>

SP-5 Jon Wallenius sent us this story. He was FO 81mm mortars, Co B 2/7 Cav, 1st Cavalry Division, Vietnam 65/66

>Good morning, Vietnam ... Wake Up Call: The first 30 days in country we spent clearing our base camp and carving out a 400-acre helicopter landing pad, being careful to not pull the roots out of the grasses and shrubbery in order to keep the dust down.

Mid-October a brigade size operation was initiated onto a large open field on the Bong Son plain. This was the largest air assault I was ever on. We landed 400 Troops in three lifts. My platoon all came in together and we were deposited in the center of this field a good hundred yards from the wood line. The gun crews set up and dug in our mortars. My job was as the forward observer for the companies mortars, and I was to stay with the guns "until I was needed." The line platoons ran to the trees looking for bad guys. Not much was happening, there were a few shots and bursts from a machine gun but in our little world we were just standing around waiting.

A short while later two Soldiers came towards us with a prisoner blindfolded and with his hands tied around his back with "commo wire" (communication wire used to link telephones). They handed him over to me and said somebody would be coming by to pick him up. This was the first Viet Cong any of us had ever seen and he didn't fit the description we were anticipating. He wasn't wearing black pajamas; they were a light grey and he didn't wear "Ho Chi Min car tire" sandals but had a shower shoe type on his feet. He sat on the ground, and we went along smoking and joking. Suddenly a machine gun began firing from the little hill and was raking back and forth over the field we were on. It didn't seem very dangerous, but I was worried that the prisoner might get hit so I told a couple of guys to pick him up and carry him over to a 4-foot-deep bomb crater a few yards away. I went over a few minutes later to see what was going on and decided I better get some cover too because the machine gun was still sporadically firing. I plopped down in the hole and was joined by two more guys. The six of us now were sitting there listening to the company net on the radio. We decided to have some chow and broke out our C rations. I was feeling sympathetic for our prisoner because the poor guy had been blindfolded all this time and no doubt besides being scared, he had no idea where he was and what was going on. He had certainly been aware of the machine gun firing in our direction. I reached over and removed his blindfold. He squinted getting used to the light and seemed to relax a little. I was enjoying a can of peaches and thought the least we could do was feed the guy, so I told one of the men to keep a locked and loaded M16 on him and another to untie his hands. He just beamed at that and I opened a can of Ham and Mothereffers (nobody liked the lima beans in this variety) and gave it to him with a spoon. I then noticed he was wearing a wristwatch, and he took it off and offered it to me. I had a watch and didn't think it was right to loot my prisoner, so I shook my head no and refused. We all sat there and ate and smoked.

Things had quieted down by now and I stood up and looked around. There were four Soldiers headed in our direction and looking for some news, got out of the hole and walked to meet them. I noticed that two of them were Army Military Police and the other two looked like South Vietnamese Rangers. They asked if I knew where the prisoner was that had been left here earlier. I said sure "He's right over there" pointing to our luncheon party. The three of them went to get him while I stayed chatting with the Staff Sergeant. When the two Rangers roughly pulled him out of the hole the Staff sergeant said, "Why isn't that man tied up and blindfolded?" I said, "We didn't figure he needed to be." The sergeant ordered them to "Search him!" The rangers ripped off his shirt and I was surprised to see he had plastic bags of documents including a map duct taped to his torso. They knocked him to the ground, ripped off the tape, collected the papers and kicked him a few times. Then they trussed him feet and hands along with a new blindfold and dragged him off towards a helicopter.

A realization came over me as I watched my former poor farmer friend become an enemy soldier, we weren't playing cowboys and Indians.

*Jon says: My daughter gave me a subscription to a company called "Storyworth" that sends me a writing prompt every Monday to eventually form a book. The story above is one of those.

>I would like to send out birthday congratulations to SGM (Ret) Jimmy Frank Capshaw who turned 93 on 05May24. The Sergeant Major did two tours in Vietnam with the Cav, 67-68 and 70-72. SGM Capshaw and his wife, Kitty, are especially pleased to announce the 60th anniversary of their marriage this year. They are very happy, still living in the same small Alabama town the SGM grew up in. Garryowen! SGM (RET) Jimmy Frank Capshaw. Happy Birthday! And Hi Kitty!

>Check out my humble contribution to Marc Levy's "The War... On Drugs." I'm 9th from the top. <<https://medicinthegreentime.com/the-war-on-drugs/>> Hopefully, if life works out, I'll get to see you all in Louisville, KY for the 76th Annual Reunion of the 1st Cavalry Division Association, 19-23 June 2024. Thanks to everyone who contributed to this issue.

Garryowen! Boz, out.

Contact the scribe to share your 7th Cav stories here!

If you were ever a part of 7th CAV, join their Association <www.us7thCavalry.com>

SUPPORT YOUR UNIT LEGACY!

8th CAV News



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My fellow Troopers, summer is upon us. I hope this column finds everyone in good health. There are things to do and places to go. Each winter I try to find something different to do when the weather breaks. Here are some things that you may find interesting, along with some freebees.

- Busch Gardens & Sea World <www.unitedparks.com/programs/waves-of-honor/>
- Shedd Aquarium, Chicago <www.sheddaquarium.org>
- <www.worldofcoca-cola.com> in Atlanta
- If you fly Southwest Airlines call 1-800-435-9792 and ask about the Veteran perks they offer. These offers are not available on their website.
- For free entrance to National parks, go to <www.nps.gov/planyourvisit/passes.htm> then click on Learn More about America the Beautiful Passes.

Yellowstone, Yosemite and the Grand Canyon are on my wish list to visit. So, get going and enjoy some or all of these. Safe Travels!

Columbus, GA Reunion

Speaking of travel, I have just returned from the 8th Cavalry Association reunion in Columbus, Ga. I went to Columbus, Ft. Benning, in '67 for jump school. That town has grown at least ten times the size it was back then. It's a beautiful city, now the second biggest in the state of Georgia. Many, many things to do. Lots of culture and entertainment venues to pick from. I don't think any food on earth couldn't be found there. We stayed at the Doubletree Hotel, and it was a nice place to stay. No frills, but comfy. Very clean and the staff was very attentive. We started each morning with a well-stocked breakfast buffet. Well done Doubletree! I would recommend Columbus for a reunion of any kind. For those who don't know, Ft. Benning is now known as Ft. Moore. Good choice.

As a group, we packed as many things into 4 days as was possible. Lots of sore feet, but it was so worth it. On Thursday, it was off to Sandy Springs, Georgia which is about 50 miles from Columbus. Sandy Springs is known as the Little White House. It is a place nestled in the Georgia woods where President Franklin D. Roosevelt would come to be close to the warm spring water found there. The water was not healing, but gave much relief to President Roosevelt, who suffered from polio. The warm water pool is still there but was empty due to renovations. The location includes a beautiful little house and a museum, with many of the President's personal belongings and artifacts on display. The grounds the house sits on are beautiful too. We all enjoyed visiting here very much.



Little White House



Smiley and Guide

he thought this bunch is trigger happy. We were able to enjoy lunch with the Troops in their mess hall. It was certainly not the same food we had back in the days we ate there. Then it was back to the hotel for some mind-bending conversation before dinner, along with a lot of elbow bending. Speaking of which, we had a great hospitality room. Soft drinks, juice, water and adult beverages were available along with snacks for everyone. I think everyone really enjoyed it.



Exhibit at Infantry Museum

45 in Buchanan, TN and had to be there for the election on Sunday. I won that and also was given the honor of AMVET of the Year. So, while I was sad to not get to finish the weekend in Columbus, I'm proud to be leading my AMVETS Post for the next year.

Attendees List

I hope I don't miss anyone on this list. I want to thank all who came to this year's 8th Cav Association reunion. My intention was to interview everyone and write about what they did then and what they do now, but I didn't have time to

From there we went to an old southern antebellum style house from the 1800's for lunch. Great country cooking, and everyone walked a little slower coming out of there.

Friday it was off to Ft. Moore. A Soldier from there joined us at the gate and was our host on post... Get it? Host on Post. Some were overjoyed to see the post again and some were not. We were able to put hands on some of todays modern weapons and equipment. Someone overheard one of the instructors say



Tank at Ft. Moore

Sadly, I had to come home early Saturday and missed the goings on that day. Larry Hempfling and Paul Braun were riding with me and had to depart also. I talked to people that stayed and they had a great time at the National Infantry Museum, where the banquet was held that evening. There was a touching remembrance of our brothers who have moved on to Fiddlers Green. Everyone had a wonderful time, and no one had to be bailed out of jail. A great big thanks to Tommy Harris for everything he did to bring this reunion together. He put in a whole lot of work so that we could all just come and enjoy being together.

My time in Columbus was cut short because I had been nominated for Commander of AMVETS Post

get to everyone. The people I didn't get to talk to have promised to send me their stories. I will start including these stories in the next issue.

Paul Braun (Doc)	C/2-8	69-70
James Dotson (Top Gun)	D/2-8	68
Tommy Harris (Smiley)	D/2-8	68-69
Larry Hempfling (Saint)	D/2-8	68-69
Barry K Corno (BC)	C/2-8	67-68
Gary C Happel	B/2-8	67-68
Curt Ireland (Doc)	C/2-8	69 (New Member)
Art Jacobs	15 th Med BN	67-68
Bert Johnson	C/2-8	68-69
Terrell W Macy (Terry)	C/2-8 Medivac	15 th Med BN 68-69
William H Pickle (Bill)	C/2-8	68-69
John E Pike (Lonely One)	C/2-8	69
Al Rackley (Al)	E/2-8	70-71
Patrick Stabb (D Stabb)	2-8	68-69
Terrance Ward (Ted)	C/2-8	67-68
L. B. White	B/2-8; C/2-8	67-68
Thomas J DeYoung	1/8 2 nd ID 3ACR	2003-2005 (New Member)
Trevor Hasset	HHC; B/2-8	68-69
Davis Moss		



2024 Attendees

And not to forget our special guests who we owe a big thank you for all their help:

Doris Edwards (guest of Tommy Harris)	Karen Happel
Sally Macy	Valerie Pike
Claudett Staab & daughter Regina Staab	Sandy Rackley
Barbara Ward	Joyce White

It was great getting together and I hope we have even more attendees next year.

Danny Barnett

Sadly, we lost another Trooper from the First Cav family. Danny was at many reunions over the years and will be missed by his comrades in D/2-8 Angry Skipper. Danny K. Barnett was born in Laramie, Wyoming on September 3, 1946. He was married in 1967 to Mary Kay Hinz. Danny had 3 children and numerous grandchildren. He passed away on April 17, 2024. Danny was a community leader involved in many civic activities. SGT Danny Barnett served his country with honor with D Company 2nd Battalion 8th Cavalry, First Cavalry Division 1968-69. SGT Barnett was awarded the Combat Infantry Badge along with many others. It was an honor to serve with Danny. Rest in peace brother, we will miss you.

Charlie CO 2/8 Reunion

Plans are falling into place for a reunion in Branson, Missouri September 10-12, 2024. The reunion will primarily consist of Vietnam Vets deployed in 69-70 with Charlie Co 2/8. Everyone from all units is welcome. For more info, contact Paul Braun at <paulbraun1949@gmail.com>. Further updates will follow in the *Saber*.

ID Cards

Those of us that are in the VA system and carry a card issued by the VA should be aware that these cards expire every 10 years. I found out by trying to use it and being told it was expired. It's a good idea to check your ID cards and make sure they are up to date.

In Closing

Please try to encourage eligible Veterans to join the 8th Cav Association. Don't forget to check on a fellow Veteran, you may be the only one who does. And last, but not least, take care of yourself.

Honor and Courage

Contact the scribe to share your 8th Cav stories!
If you were ever a part of thCAV, join their
Association <www.8Cavalry.com>
SUPPORT YOUR UNIT LEGACY!



2024 Attendees with their wives

Limited Edition 1st Cavalry Division Prints

Both Military Edition Prints are autographed by the artist and numbered



Turning the Corner
Task Force Baghdad
by James Dietz
31" x 19"
\$40

Operation Iraqi Freedom
Task Force Baghdad Print
As a commemorative to the
division's tour of duty, this
painting by James Dietz
captures the essence of a street
scene in Baghdad with Cav Troopers and the equipment they used in the effort to
help the Iraqi people "turn the corner" on the road from tyranny to democracy.



Liberation of Baqubah
Oct 2006 - Dec 2007
Iraq
by Joe Kline
28" x 20"
\$40

Deployed to Diyala Province,
Iraq in September 2006 with 3rd
Heavy Brigade Combat Team,
1st Cavalry Division. 1-12 CAV
assumed an area of operations of
over 300 square kilometers. The
battalion pursued an aggressive
campaign of counter-insurgency operations focused on securing the war torn
provincial capitol. Determined to strike at the heart of the insurgency, 1-12 CAV
established permanent combat outposts in the most dangerous parts of Baqubah:
Buhriz, Khatoon, Old Baqubah and Tahrir. From these outpost 1-12 CAV conducted
aggressive, near-continuous combat operations to destroy the insurgency. The
Liberation of Baqubah was in keeping with the proud history of the 12th Cavalry
Regiment.

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NEW PINS



Cav Patch Lapel Pin
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1st Cav Div Assn Pin
1.5"
\$6.00



1st CAVALRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION HISTORIAN

Dennis Webster
513 Louise St, Copperas Cove, TX 76522
254-220-2164
Dennis.Webster7@gmail.com



DSC

Valor is defined in the dictionary as “strength of mind or spirit that enables a person to encounter danger with firmness: personal bravery.” The absence of indecision even in the face of death is the true mark of valor.

We all are aware that history is made by the actions of men and women that influence the outcome of events. In the nearly 103 years of the history of the 1st Cavalry Division there were thousands of valorous acts performed and recognized with medals and awards; and thousands more that went unrecognized because they were not observed or those that observed the actions didn’t survive to tell the tale. Unfortunately, there are also cases of valor that were ignored because of prejudices and discrimination based on race or religion.

Forty-four Troopers of the 1st Cavalry Division have been awarded the Medal of Honor, our nation’s highest award for valor. The second highest award for valor is the Distinguished Service Cross and the criteria states that the actions must be of such high degree that they are above those required for all other U.S. combat decorations, but which do not meet the criteria for the Medal of Honor.

CPL Manuel Urenda

Manuel Urenda was born in Amarillo, Texas on 14 March 1923 but joined the Army from Colonias, New Mexico. While in Colonias he met and married Cordelia Madrid on 28 September 1942. They were married forty-eight years and ten months, raising five sons and two daughters. CPL Urenda died on 21 July 1991 and is buried in Llano Cemetery in Amarillo, Texas.

His citation says: “The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Distinguished Service Cross to Manuel Urenda, Corporal, U.S. Army, for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy while serving with Company D, 7th Cavalry Regiment, in action near Malvar, Luzon, Philippine Islands, on 29 March 1945. Due to a shortage of men, Corporal Urenda, a first gunner in a mortar squad, was acting as a light machine gunner in the perimeter of Troop D, 7th Cavalry, when he perceived an enemy attack and shouted a warning to his comrades. Simultaneously he opened fire and inflicted heavy casualties on the advancing Japanese. Knocked to the ground by mortar fire which tore two holes in his helmet, he immediately regained his position and resumed firing. When his assistant was wounded, and he ceased firing long enough to administer first aid, the enemy partially surrounded his position. As he again commenced firing, he was shot in the neck by a sniper. Recovering and resuming fire he was wounded twice more by rifle bullets. He crawled back to his position and, fighting extreme pain, continued to fire with devastating effect on the enemy. Refusing to be evacuated, he stayed at his gun until directly ordered to leave. When the enemy assault was repulsed, a large quantity of munitions, twelve Japanese dead and evidence of numerous other casualties were found in front of his position. Corporal Urenda’s heroic devotion to duty in spite of his painful wounds was an important factor in turning back the enemy attack. Corporal Urenda’s intrepid actions, personal bravery and zealous devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the military forces of the United States and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.” *Headquarters, U.S. Forces-Pacific, General Orders No. 74 (1945)*

PFC Buster Shell

Buster Shell was born and raised in the Shell Creek community of Morgan Branch, Tennessee and enlisted in the Army at age seventeen. Working on his father’s farm was all he knew until enlisting. Trained at Fort Benning as an anti-tank gunner he was sent to Korea and the 1st Cavalry Division. After his service in the Korean War he returned to his home and married his girlfriend, Lois. They lived for a short time in Chicago but returned to Tennessee. They had three children, two daughters and a son. They divorced not long after their son died in a car accident at age sixteen. Buster Shell died in a vehicle accident in 2002.

His citation says: “The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Distinguished Service Cross to Buster Shell (RA14323453), Private First Class, U.S. Army, for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy of the United Nations while serving with Company L, 3d Battalion, 7th Cavalry Regiment (Infantry), 1st Cavalry Division. Private First Class Shell distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism in action against enemy aggressor forces near Hukkyo-ri, Korea, on 18 October 1950. An infantry company, attacking the high ground along the main highway leading into the North Korean capital of Pyongyang, was halted by a heavy concentration of flat trajectory fire from concealed enemy positions. This enemy fire was becoming increasingly effective, and every effort was being made to find the source. Private Shell suddenly shouted that he had discovered the location and that the fire was from two enemy tanks. Disregarding his own safety, he voluntarily moved forward, armed only with a loaded rocket launcher, into the enemy fire to within fifty yards of the first enemy tank and destroyed it with his



PFC Buster Shell

only rocket. He then returned to his original position, reloaded his launcher, and fearlessly moved up until he was within point-blank range of the second tank, and then destroyed it. His extreme courage and outstanding devotion to duty at great risk to his own life broke up an enemy roadblock and enabled his company to continue their attack on Pyongyang.”

Headquarters, Eighth U.S. Army, Korea: General Orders No. 204 (December 20, 1950)



CPT Norman Mordue

1LT Norman A. Mordue

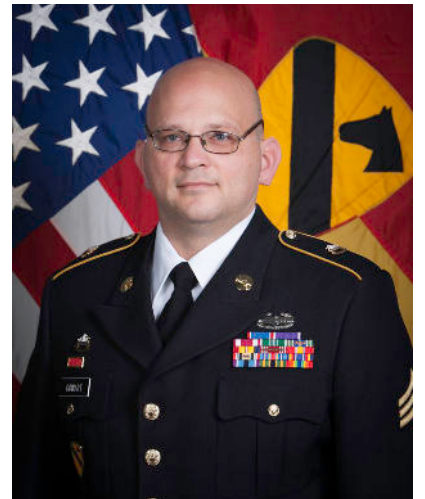
Born and raised in Elmira, New York, Norman Mordue played football in high school and was awarded a full scholarship from Syracuse University to play football where he was a member the 1964 Sugar Bowl team. Graduating from college in 1966, he was commissioned as an Infantry officer and deployed to Vietnam. Medically retired from the Army from wounds sustained in combat at the rank of captain, he went back to Syracuse University and received his law degree. He worked his way up from law clerk to Chief Assistant District Attorney in charge of felony and homicide prosecutions. He then began his career as a Judge, being confirmed by the Senate in 1998 to serve as a Federal Judge, and in 2006 appointed as the Chief Judge for

the Northern District of New York. He and his wife Christina were regulars at the Veterans Day gatherings of the Association in Washington, DC. Judge Mordue died on 29 December 2022 and is survived by his wife, two sons and a daughter.

His citation says: “The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Distinguished Service Cross to Norman A. Mordue (OF-108795), First Lieutenant (Infantry), U.S. Army, for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam, while serving with Company C, 1st Battalion (Airborne), 12th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division. First Lieutenant Mordue distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 31 May 1967 while serving as platoon leader of an Airmobile platoon on a search and clear operation in the village of An Qui. When another platoon was pinned down by heavy machine gun and grenade fire from a numerically superior and well entrenched insurgent force, Lieutenant Mordue immediately led his platoon on a fierce attack to relieve the pressure on the engaged unit. Seeing two of his men wounded and pinned down, he grabbed a machine gun and braved withering enemy fire to rescue them. He then moved to the front of his platoon, completely ignoring his own safety, and personally destroyed two enemy bunkers and killed five hostile soldiers in the ensuing offensive. Severely wounded and unable to walk, Lieutenant Mordue refused medical aid and directed the withdrawal of his men as deadly artillery strikes were called in on the Viet Cong positions. His bravery and gallant leadership contributed greatly to the defeat of the enemy. First Lieutenant Mordue extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.” *Headquarters, US Army, Vietnam, General Orders No. 4667 (September 14, 1967)*

SGT Daniel E. Cowart

Daniel E. Cowart, a native of Orange, Texas, enlisted in the Army after graduating from High School in 1999. Trained as an Armor Crewman he was assigned to the 1st Cavalry Division and would deploy to Iraq in 2006. When he deployed, he left his wife Sarah, and their twin daughters who were not yet two years old. SGT Cowart was initially awarded the Silver Star Medal. He lost his left leg and went through over twenty major surgeries as the result of his actions. The Army reviewed all awards from Iraq and in 2019 his award was reevaluated, and he was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross. His medal was awarded at a ceremony with a huge crowd on Cooper Field on 20 March 2019. You can view the ceremony at: [https://www.dvidshub.net/video/667849/sgt-r-daniel-cowart-presented-distinguished-service-cross].



SGT (Ret) Daniel Cowart

His citation says: “The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918, takes pleasure in presenting the Distinguished Service Cross to Sergeant Daniel E. Cowart, United States Army, for extraordinary heroism in an action against an enemy while serving as a team leader in the 1st Platoon, Company D, 3d Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 3d Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, during combat operations in support of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM, on 13 May 2007, near Samarra, Iraq. During the conduct of a combat patrol along a main supply route, Sergeant Cowart’s platoon halted to conduct a traffic checkpoint. When the occupants of a stopped vehicle would not exit their vehicle, Sergeant Cowart and three of his comrades dismounted their vehicle and approached the stopped vehicle and took positions to engage with the occupants. While they were near the vehicle, the occupants burst from the vehicle, one wielding a rifle which he fired at two of the nearby Soldiers and the other wearing a suicide vest. As the rifle wielding insurgent was engaged by another Soldier, Sergeant Cowart maneuvered around the vehicle and engaged the suicide vest wearing insurgent in hand-to-hand combat, tackling the man hurling himself and the man away from the vehicle. Despite the confusion, the insurgent detonated his vest, thereby traumatically wounding Sergeant Cowart. Due to his ability to discern the threat to his comrades and his utter disregard for his own safety, Sergeant Cowart was able to prevent further injury to his fellow Soldiers and nearby civilians. Sergeant Cowart’s actions are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the 8th Cavalry Regiment, and the United States Army.”

15th MED/15th FSB/15th BSB

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In the last *Saber* 1st Cav Assn Historian Dennis Webster recalled the gallant defense of LZ Grant in III Corps Vietnam Tay Ninh in March of 1969. It was mentioned that MEDEVAC

helicopters were directed to land on the LZ during the attack.

I had commo from MEDEVAC 19 Dan Toothman years ago and he had mentioned going into Grant during an attack. I tried to contact him again, but I received nothing from him this time.

I wanted to know if what he wrote to me in July of 2019 was about the March '69 attack, or one from a later date. He mentions LZ Grant was attacked a lot. I was in III Corps then with 2-7 Cav out of LZ Jamie about ten clicks NE of Grant. We built Jamie in April '69. Grant and LZ Ike-another ten clicks west of us-were always getting hit. When we rotated onto the LZ we would know when those other LZs were getting hit. Jamie and the rest of them covered each other with artillery support.

Dan Toothman had written to me in July 2019 the following: "...LZs Grant and Ike seemed to be getting hit all the time. In early May, Grant was taking a ground attack at night and had a number of urgents. There was lots of illumination and Blue Max all over the sky. Their Log Pad was not secure, so we had to put one skid on the command bunker and load patients that way. They must have taken down their antennae because we didn't hit any. We had another bird come in from Phuoc Vinh to help, but on his second or third trip a 51cal hit him in a rotor blade about an inch behind the spar. Lucky. I think I made 5-6 trips that night for urgents and others we could fit in. We went back in daylight for the walking wounded. The 105s had been shooting Beehives and we were told they had to dig trenches with dozers/Rome Plows to bury all the NVA. I was also told that they were in the process of changing companies for Palace Guard and there were two companies of Grunts on the LZ instead of the usual one. Charlie stepped into a beehive (pun intended) that night."

I was thinking that could have been the March '69 attack. 2-12 Cav and attached artillery, engineers, and Black Hat Pathfinders all were awarded the Valorous Unit Award, so what MEDEVAC 19 describes could have been during that March intensity. Also, the other attacks could have been that way. I may still be contacted by Dan someday and find out what he has to say.

That was the kind of support that MEDEVAC provided. Always getting in when they had to. The Black Hats were always helpful, directing traffic, and the pilots knew how to respond.

LZ Grant was built over an old French Fort. Tay Ninh was 1st Brigade's AO and they built LZs in various strategic places to



Grant up close

screen the NVA insurgency. Many infantry companies scattered around on patrol made it hard for the NVA to advance.

The historian in the last *Saber* listed his sources that he used for his article about LZ Grant. One of them: *Incursion* by MAJ J.D. Coleman, Division PIO tells the whole story of why the 1st Cav was brought down to III Corps Vietnam in 1968, and what we were doing leading up to and including the Cambodian Incursion. Anyone who wants to know should read it. J.D. Coleman's book is about as accurate as possible. Being Division PIO he had access to all the division submitted data. I do see a discrepancy with the casualty figures he wrote for FSB David in Cambodia. The participants I wrote about when they told me of their attack in June 1970 said higher casualties.

Always remembering our 1st Cav Troops on duty around the world; over and out. FIRST TEAM! Garryowen, Mike Bodnar C 2/7 Cav 1969 MEDEVAC 1-7/1970, SO THAT OTHERS MAY LIVE

Contact the scribe to share your 15th MED stories!

If you were ever a part of 15th MED, join their Association <www.15thMedBnAssociation.org>

SUPPORT YOUR UNIT LEGACY!

DIVISION DOINGS

Continued from pg. 6

"First Team" Inducts First Legend

by SGT Alex Romey

The "First Team" inducted CSM Dennis Webster (Ret) as the first inductee into its Hall of Legends. The ceremony took place alongside the casing of colors ceremony held on Cooper Field, Fort Cavazos, Texas, on April 25.

The Hall of Legends was created to honor the work 1st Cavalry Division Veterans and community members have done for the Division and our community and stands proudly at the main entrance of the Division Headquarters.

"The Hall of Legends is a way to forever honor men and women who give so much to make the Division the best in the Army," said CSM LeVares J. Jackson Sr., the Division Command Sergeant Major. "They exemplify our values and build upon our legend."

MG Kevin D. Admiral, the division commanding general, and CSM Jackson presented Webster with a yellow jacket at the ceremony. Webster previously served as the 20th Division Command Sergeant Major and has been supporting the Division since his retirement.

"It was a surprise. I figured that people appreciated what I did and the part that I played in the Division," said Webster. "But I didn't expect to be the first one in that hall, and I'm very grateful for their presentation of that jacket."

Webster thinks that in the future, the Division will look for those who have done their service while in the Division and those who have gone above and beyond after retiring from the First Team. The Hall of Legends, complete with Webster's service photo, is a testament to the respect and appreciation for those who have served selflessly within the Division and beyond.



Dennis receiving his yellow jacket

CPT Clarence Clark Receives Distinguished Flying Cross

by SPC David Dumas

Although the Vietnam War ended 49 years ago, the heroic sacrifice of the Troopers who fought made a lasting impact on the modern world. It was on April 25, 2024, during a ceremony to case the colors of the 1st Cavalry Division, that a distinguished Vietnam War Veteran was honored with the presentation of the Distinguished Flying Cross, which he earned for his outstanding service and valor.

While deployed in Vietnam, CPT Clarence E. Clark received the medal for his service with Foxtrot Battery, 79th Artillery, 1st Cavalry Division.

"You never forget the relationship you develop with your fellow servicemembers. It's a relationship stronger than family, said Clark. "You're with them 24/7. You'll eat with them, sleep in the same place, and maybe he's saved your life or maybe you've saved his. There's nothing that beats that."

Clark served as an AH-1G Aircraft Commander and Aerial Artillery Section Leader. He was known for his unwavering dedication and courage, which he still is remembered by his fellow service members.

"I'm still in touch with a lot of the people I served with. Those relationships never break," said Clark. "You may be a part for years, but once you get back together, it feels like it was just yesterday that you were together."

When Clark's air artillery section was sent to assist a medical evacuation aircraft that was stuck in a fierce battle with a large enemy force, Clark led the way for the medical ship despite being exposed to intense ground-to-air fire from small arms weapons and rockets.

After the medical evacuation ship was hit by enemy fire and forced down, Clark bravely put himself and his section in harm's way. He did this to provide a clear path for evacuating the crash survivors.

Then, protecting a second evacuation aircraft, he directed it into the area and shielded it with his artillery section, allowing the survivors of the downed aircraft to be rescued while placing accurate fire upon the enemy.

Clark risked his life several more times that day to protect medical evacuation teams from enemy fire. He launched several rocket assaults that caused significant damage to the enemy and saved many American lives.

Clark's outstanding courage and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of military service. They reflected great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

"It means a lot to me that the 1st Cavalry Division took the time to do this. There was no obligation for them to do so, and yet they did it anyway," said Clark. "I am forever grateful."

Continued to pg. 18

WANTED:

MAJ PATRICK, 2nd BDE S-2, CAMBODIAN INCURSION

I am looking for the full name of MAJ Patrick, the S-2 for the 2nd Brigade during the Cambodian Incursion. Any help with this would be of great assistance to me. I am having a problem obtaining this information. One references Burton D. Patrick, but his bio shows he didn't serve with the Cav, only with the 42nd Vietnamese Ranger Battalion in 72-73. I would appreciate any help on this.

Thanks,

CW5 (Ret) Robert "Bob" Wheeler <sandrawhee@gmail.com>

76th ANNUAL REUNION OF THE 1ST CAVALRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 19-23 June 2024

The Fort Knox Area Chapter invites you to join the rest of the First Team Family in Louisville, KY for the 76th Annual Reunion of the 1st Cavalry Division Association from 19-23 June 2024. All Life and Associate Members are welcome to attend this special event. Gold Star Families and Widows of our members are always welcome to attend.

Please register early to assist us in coordinating the best reunion possible. Some events have limited seating available due to the size of available rooms. All members of the Association must register and pay the \$40 Registration Fee except for our Active-Duty Troopers who pay \$20 to register. Family members attending with an Association member, Widows of 1st Cavalry Division Troopers, and Gold Star Family members that attend do not have to pay a registration fee. *The registration fee will no longer be refundable regardless of when a member cancels.*

Online registration is open! The Reunion registration form will be included in the *Saber* until April '24. Those sending in registrations post-marked after 1 May 2024 must pay a late registration fee of \$50.

The Association will be providing our guests with transportation to the Louisville Slugger Museum and back to the Crowne Plaza Hotel on Friday 21 June 2024 (0930-1800) at a cost of \$20 per person. Additionally, a bus will be provided for members who wish to visit the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in Elizabethtown, KY on Thursday 20 June (0930-1600), at \$40 per person. Bus tickets can be purchased when you initially register, either by mail-in or on-line, or at the Walk-in Registration area. There will be no bus passes needed for those attending the mixer or the Ladies Tea.

NOTE: Cancellations are non-refundable after the 1 May 2024 deadline.

HOTEL INFORMATION

We will be utilizing the Crowne Plaza Louisville Airport Expo Center for all our events. The Crowne Plaza has guaranteed a room rate of \$131 per night plus tax for rooms and there is no charge for parking. Make sure that you identify yourself as attending the 1st Cavalry Division Association Reunion. The hotel does provide a free shuttle service from the Louisville Airport and rental cars are available at the airport.

Crowne Plaza Louisville Airport (866) 888-0620 reference code: CR1
830 Phillips Ln
Louisville, KY 40209

Or use the provided link on the right-side menu of the Association website.

I do not foresee the hotel running out of rooms, however if the need arises, I have provided additional hotels for our members to consider and in walking distance to the Crowne Plaza.

Spring Hill Suites Louisville Airport	(502) 361-9009
Tru by Hilton Louisville Airport	(502) 792-8800
Hampton Inn Louisville Airport	(502) 366-8100
Howard Johnson by Windham Louisville Airport	(502) 363-9952
Courtyard by Marriott Louisville Airport	(502) 368-5678

RV PARK INFORMATION

For our members traveling with an RV, I have provided you with several options:

Derby Park Campgrounds & RV Parking (502) 636-3532
2900 7th Street Rd
Louisville, KY 40216

Brooks Mobile & RV Park (502) 276-6090
205 Sarver Ln
Brooks, KY 40109

Louisville North Campground (812) 282-4474
900 Marriott Dr
Clarksville, IN 47129

REUNION EVENT OVERVIEW

You will notice several reunion event changes on the registration form. Instead of War Lunches we will be having a Legacy Breakfast. The Mixer has now been changed to the President's Reception. We did raise the registration costs, to include late registrations and Walk-in registrations. Beginning this year, we will no longer refund the registration fee at any point for a cancelation.

Transportation arrangements have been made for our members to visit the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Park on our bus trip to Elizabethtown, KY on Thursday 20 June (0930-1800). Our local Fort Knox Chapter helped raise money and supported the The Wall Project. The cost for this trip is \$40 per person.

Additionally, we will offer a bus trip to to visit the Downtown Louisville area on Friday 21 June (0930-1600). There is a slight cost required for this transportation (\$20 per person). Louisville is a city full of culture and compassion. For the "Foodie," Louisville is ranked among the top 10 best new food cities; if Bourbon gets your engine running try the world's only Urban Bourbon 'city-wide' experience; and for the kid in all of us, visit the Louisville Slugger Museum & Factory or the Muhammad Ali Center. These are just a few things to do. Hop on the 'LouLift,' free downtown transportation, and you can see everything else the downtown area has to offer.

This year's Ladies Tea will be at the Kentucky Derby Museum. Enjoy a refreshing lunch followed up with a tour of the museum.

The President's Reception/Mixer will again be at Churchill Downs. This time you can bet on real races. Thursday is Night Racing in Kentucky. There will be a light meal available for attendees, a cash bar, and camaraderie while you take in a race or two.

As usual, we will have all other planned events in the Crowne Plaza: Legacy Breakfast, Unit Lunches, Purple Heart Breakfast, Association Banquet, Group Breakfasts, and Memorial Service. We will have meetings of the Chapter Presi-

dents, Foundation Trustees, the Board of Governors, and our General Membership meeting. During our General Membership meeting on Saturday morning, we will hold elections for the Association and Foundation.

Seating for all events is open except for Reunion Banquet on Saturday night. If you are attending the banquet, you must get your tickets **marked with a table number** at the Banquet Seating table when picking up your registration packet. If you want to sit with specific people, we recommend that you all go to the Banquet Seating table together with your tickets available. Don't wait until the last minute or we may not be able to accommodate your needs.

Cavalry casual attire is appropriate for all reunion events. Wear what you feel comfortable wearing; a coat and tie, your uniform (if it still fits), casual clothing with open collar, jeans, or shorts. We want you to attend and aren't overly concerned with what you wear, so long as it isn't indecent!

The Association will provide a Reunion Room in the Crowne Plaza for you to gather and enjoy yourself. Drinks (beer and wine) in the Reunion Room are free but we ask that you generously donate to help us pay for this room. The Reunion Room will open daily at 0900 with the bar opening at 1200 hours.

The Crossed Sabers Chapter Gift Shop will set up a store in the hotel to sell all kinds of Cav-tastic First Team merchandise including shirts, hats, Stetsons, pins, decals, and other items too numerous to mention.

THE BEST PART OF THE REUNION

As always, the best part of any reunion is the people that attend. The 1st Cavalry Division Association Reunion brings in Troopers from almost every era of the First Team's history. Troopers that rode horses, fought in the Pacific with MacArthur, occupied Japan, fought in Korea, or stood watch on the DMZ will spend time with the Sky Troopers of Vietnam and the Troopers from Operation Desert Storm, Fort Hood, Bosnia, and the latest combat Veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan. The equipment and terrain might be different, but the common bond of serving with America's First Team binds us together. Saddle up and ride on down to Louisville in 2024!





76th ANNUAL 1st CAVALRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION REUNION, **JUNE 19-23, 2024**, in LOUISVILLE, KY
is open to all members of the 1st Cavalry Division Association

WEDNESDAY JUNE 19 0900-1800 Registration Desk Open 0900-1800 Gift Shop Open 0900-2400 Reunion Room Open	FRIDAY JUNE 21 0730-0900 Legacy Breakfast (in place of War Lunches) 0900-1800 Registration Desk Open 0900-1800 Gift Shop Open 0900-2400 Reunion Room Open 0930-1800 Bus Downtown 1200-1400 Ladies Tea (Kentucky Derby Museum) 1430-1530 Veterans Benefits Briefing	SATURDAY JUNE 22 0730-0845 Purple Heart Breakfast 0900-1100 General Membership Mtg 0900-2400 Reunion Room Open 0900-1500 Registration Desk Open 0900-1600 Gift Shop Open 1100-1300 Unit Luncheons 1745-1845 Cocktails (Cash Bar) 1900-2230 Association Banquet
THURSDAY JUNE 20 0900-1600 Registration Desk Open 0900-1600 Gift Shop Open 0900-2400 Reunion Room Open 0930-1800 Trip to Elizabethtown, KY 1000-1100 Foundation Mtg 1100-1300 Board of Governor’s Mtg 1330-1400 Chapter Presidents Mtg 2000-2200 President’s Reception/Mixer	VERSION 3 UPDATED COPY	SUNDAY JUNE 23 0700-0830 Group Breakfast 0700-0830 LRRP/Ranger Breakfast 0900-1000 Memorial Service (Long Roll Muster)

MAIL TO:
1st CAVALRY DIVISION ASSN REUNION, 302 N. MAIN, COPPERAS COVE, TX 76522-1703
The 76th Annual 1CDA Reunion is at Crowne Plaza Louisville Airport, 830 Phillips Lane 40209, Louisville, KY (866)888-0620, **June 19-23, 2024**.
Registration fee is required for Lifetime and Associate Member, not guests. Fee includes information packet with name tag(s), booklet and pin.
REFUNDS: Cancellations must be received by 5:00pm May 1, 2024, in our office (254-547-6537) for a refund. **Registration fee is non-refundable.
**Cancellations are non-refundable after the May 1, 2024 deadline.

Are you a member of 1CDA? Yes No
Is this your first reunion? Yes No

Name: _____
Address: _____
City/State/Zip: _____
Phone #: _____
Email: _____
Nickname: _____
Unit (s) #1: _____
Year (s) #1: _____
Unit (s) #2: _____
Year (s) #2: _____

Guests/Spouse/Other: (For nametag purposes)
#1: _____
#2: _____
#3: _____
#4: _____
#5: _____
#6: _____

Method of Payment: (circle one)
Credit Card Check: # _____
CC #: _____
Exp Date: _____
CVV#: _____
Signature: _____

BUS PASSES: Prices are per person. ADA bus will be available.

- Bus to Elizabethtown, KY- Thurs, June 20 \$40 Qty: _____ \$ _____
- Bus to Downtown Louisville- Fri, June 21 \$20 Qty: _____ \$ _____

THURSDAY JUNE 20
President’s Reception/Mixer _____ \$ 45.00 \$ _____
Cash Bar, Buffet
No bus pass needed

FRIDAY JUNE 21
Legacy Breakfast (in place of War Lunches) _____ \$ 40.00 \$ _____
Ladies Tea
Includes lunch at the Kentucky Derby Museum _____ \$ 40.00 \$ _____
No bus pass needed

SATURDAY JUNE 22
Purple Heart Breakfast _____ \$ 32.00 \$ _____
Unit Lunch (Circle your unit) _____ \$ 50.00 \$ _____
5C 7C 8C 9C 12C ENG
AVN ARTY HQ LRRP
Assoc Banquet (Circle your unit) _____ \$ 65.00 \$ _____
5C 7C 8C 9C 12C ENG
AVN ARTY HQ LRRP

SUNDAY JUNE 23
Group Breakfast _____ \$ 32.00 \$ _____
LRRP Breakfast _____ \$ 32.00 \$ _____

REGISTRATION FEE:
(For member, not guests) 1 \$ **40.00** \$ _____

Active Duty w/ID _____ \$ 20.00 \$ _____
Reunion Donation _____ Donation \$ _____
Saber Newspaper Renewal (\$20 per year) **(\$20 per year)** \$ _____

REGISTRATION FEE AFTER MAY 15, 2024 \$ 50.00 \$ _____

GRAND TOTAL \$ _____

PLEASE NOTE: Prices are based off of hotel costs, with no taxes or gratuities included.

CHAPTER NEWS
UPDATES

We invite all of our Chapter Presidents, VPs or POC's to contribute any photos, news, or updates about your Chapter, to be **posted here in the Saber!** We would love to hear updates from all of our Chapters spread across the United States. **WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO USE THIS PLATFORM TO SHARE YOUR BULLETINS.**
Submission deadline to appear in the next Saber is **Monday, July 1, 2024.**
Please send to Memberships@1CDA.org

ATTENTION CHAPTER PRESIDENTS:
There will be a Chapter Presidents Meeting Thurs, June 20, 1:30-2:00pm at the 76th Reunion in Louisville, KY.
If you hold a position in your chapter, it is highly encouraged you attend.
It is recommended that you start collecting your ideas to present them to the other Chapters. See you there!

CROSSED SABERS CHAPTER

Happy summer Cav Troopers! We had a great start with CSM (Ret) Dennis Webster receiving his yellow jacket from Division on April 25. Congratulations Dennis, you are a great asset to the Association and Division.
We are looking for ideas for the next Stable Call. Something or somewhere that would get Soldiers to attend, so we can get more awareness. A lot of Division is departing so Rear-D will have a heavy load to carry. Getting a link with those CDRs and 1SGs will be important.
Time is getting short for your reunion registration. Get yours in soon to ensure there are tickets available for the events you wish to attend. Looking forward in seeing everyone at the upcoming reunion in Louisville.
First Team, Joe Wilgeroth, 1st VP, 254-535-7186

CONNECTICUT CHAPTER

Our Chapter meeting was at Manchester Ct. American Legion, April 20, 2024.
L-R Al Johnson, Jack Kranyak, Steve Zielenski, Tom McBriarty, Glen Bentz, Keith Moyer.



Our next meeting will be in **July** at the **Chester CT Marina**. This will be our annual barbeque/picnic meeting. Time and date to be determined. All prospective members, and guests no matter branch of service, are invited. Call President Keith Moyer for details 860-885-4330, or email [<kpmoyerco@hotmail.com>](mailto:kpmoyerco@hotmail.com).

FLORIDA'S FIRST COAST CHAPTER

Remember when your 1st Sergeant checked your uniform for loose threads and specks of dust? Our model is none other than Leigh Ware who helped occupy Japan after WWII.
Fortunately, we at Florida's First Coast Chapter will let you slide a little bit on the proper wearing, but it could cost you according to the whim of our Treasurer, Lou. As is said, "Don't mess with Texas" or our Sgt. At Arms, Johnny might levy more than a fine on you, endless KP after our meetings.
Our most recent lunch program was presented by Ron Hasty from the University of Florida, Brain Injury Department at Shands Hospital. We trust none of you suffer from TBI but know resources are available in the North Florida area.
If you live in the greater Melrose, Waldo, or Yulee area and want to connect again with the Cav, just call the listing associated listing with this article.



Leigh Ware

FORT KNOX CHAPTER

Our Fort Knox Chapter is busy setting up arrangements and scheduling members to help host this year's reunion in Louisville, KY. We are all hoping for a good turnout for all. This year will be the first-time 1st Cavalry members will get to see our replica Vietnam Memorial Wall in Elizabethtown, KY. We have been working hard to ensure this trip will be the best ever.
Robert W. Griffin Vice President, Fort Knox Area Chapter

LOS ANGELES/ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER

On March 16, 2024, our chapter held their bi-monthly breakfast meeting at the Redlands, California home of our newest chapter member, Dan Flanigan, and his wife Elaine. We enjoyed a tasty meal, and a beautiful SoCal morning. Those in attendance are in the photo from left to right: Cleveland Norton, Marilyn Saucedo, John Guillory, Don Miller, Carol Guillory, Scott Alexander, Elaine Flanigan, Dan Flanigan, Ray Saucedo, Rogelia Oliver, Gary Oliver, Don Simpson, and Susie Simpson.



My first worst day in Nam

NY/NJ CHAPTER

The NY/NJ Chapter held its quarterly meeting at the Elks Lodge in Ridgefield Park, NJ, on May 4th and was attended by more than 30 Veterans and guests. The guest speaker was the President of the Chapter, Robin Bartlett.
Robin gave a 45-minute PowerPoint presentation and spoke about his tour as a combat infantry platoon leader with A Company, 1/5 Cav at the height of the war, 1968-69. The presentation featured videos discussing Charlie Alphas, walking point, and firefights. The program took chapter members back more than 55 years to a "boots on the ground" account of his extraordinary combat experiences as a 22-year-old 1st Lieutenant with the Cav. As a combat infantry platoon leader, he deployed a 28-man platoon on more than 50 search and destroy missions and helicopter assaults into hot landing zones. As a result of these unusual events and his training as a combat Infantry officer, Robin discussed meaningful lessons learned about leadership, decision making and courage.

Bartlett's vivid combat events were brought to light in a fast-moving discussion expressing the horror, fear, anguish, and sometimes illogical humor of that war. He discussed the long-term impact, both positive and negative, on his home life and business career, leadership, decision making, courage, PTSD, and life lessons learned.

His presentation is presented in greater detail in his recently published book, *Vietnam Combat: Firefights and Writing History* (Casemate, 2023). The book is a finalist in the Foreword Indies Awards in the war history category, the Army Historical Foundation, and the Military Writers Society Distinguished Writer



February Chapter Meeting

Awards. The book was also positively reviewed in On Point: The Journal of Army History. His website has book reviews, videos, photos, blogs and much more: [<www.RobinBartlettAuthor.com>](http://www.RobinBartlettAuthor.com).
Our chapter meetings are open to all service members regardless of branch, including family members, guests and interested parties. Our next meeting will be held in **September**. The meeting will start at 10:00am, with a meet and greet, followed by presentations starting at 11:00. Guest speaker and date TBA. Our meetings are held at the Elks Lodge, 20 Spruce Street, Ridgefield Park, NJ. There is no cost to attend, and coffee and a free buffet lunch will be served. Come join us! To stay informed of future chapter events, send an email to Robin Bartlett, Chapter President, [<rbbartlett01@gmail.com>](mailto:rbbartlett01@gmail.com), or call 201-856-7530.

HAVE YOUR CHAPTER NEWS UPDATES
POSTED HERE!

Whether you're a new member or not, refer to the Chapter Index on page 15 and link in to your nearest Chapter.
Or form a New Chapter in your local area!
Email [<memberships@1CDA.org>](mailto:memberships@1CDA.org) for details!

CHAPTER INDEX

**CALIFORNIA
CENTRAL COAST**
Pres: Barney B. Jones
P.O. Box 444
Pebble Beach, CA 93953
(831) 917-5952
Email: firstcav-cc-chapter@outlook.com

COLUMBIA-WILLAMETTE
Pres: Terry Low
16560 S Harding Rd.
Oregon City, OR 97045-9679
(503) 210-5558
Email: tangolima2505@comcast.net
Website: www.Hood2Hood1stCav.webs.com
Meets 1200 2nd Thurs of ea mos at the Elmer's Restaurant, 10001 NE Sandy Blvd, Portland, OR. No meeting in Dec.

CONNECTICUT
Pres: Keith Moyer
48 Boretz Rd.
Colchester, CT 06415-1009
(860) 885-4330
Email: kpmoyerco@hotmail.com
Facebook: CTCAV
We meet quarterly. Email me for info. All new & prospective members welcome.

CROSSED SABERS
Pres: Tony Cole
(254) 394-2891
Email: Olesarge19d@outlook.com
Facebook: 1st Cavalry Division Association Crossed Saber Chapter
Gen membership mtgs Mar & Oct.
Stable Calls: 4th Thurs of eamos, 6pm, except Nov, Dec and the month of the Assn Reunion. Stable Calls at various locations in Cen TX area.

FLORIDA
VP: Gil Harris
(585) 704-2758
Facebook: Florida Chapter 1st Cavalry Division Association
Meets 1300 2nd Tues of ea mos at VFW Post 2093, 4444 Edgewater Dr, Orlando

FLORIDA'S FIRST COAST
Pres: Jesse Crimm
4445 Silverwood Ln
Jacksonville, FL 32207-6241
(904)534-8899
Email: thecrimms@gmail.com
Meets at noon on 3rd Tues of every mos. Locations alternate between westside & southside Jacksonville. Call 904-534-8899 to be notified & placed on mailing list.

**FLORIDA TROOP E
"BLACK HAT"**
Pres: Juan Kellogg
607 SE 47th St., Apt. 7
Cape Coral, FL 33904-5506
Email: juankellogg@embarqmail.com
Website: www.seahog.org/cav/index.html
Meets 4th Sat ea mos from Sept.-May 1:00 pm at Mission BBQ, 12984 S. Cleveland Ave, Fort Myers, FL 33907

FORT KNOX AREA
Pres: Thomas Ken O'Barr
12210 Valley Dr.
Louisville, KY 40026-9501
(502) 228-8032
Email: ko42@bellsouth.net
POC: Robert W. Griffin
64 Tabor Lane
Elizabethtown, KY 42701-6158
(270) 737-5908
Email: lyngriffxx@windstream.net
Facebook: 1st Cavalry Div Fort Knox Area Chapter
Meets 3rd Sat of mos at 11am at Camp Knox Masonic Lodge #919, 1158 N. Dixie Hwy, Radcliff, KY.

**JAMES H. UNRUH
CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA**
Pres: Michael T. Mazzaro
2600 Willow St. Pike North
PMB 231
Willow Street, PA 17584
(717) 389-1000
Email: cenpenn1cda@gmail.com
Meets 1800 2nd Tues of ea mos, except Nov, Dec, and Jan, Lititz VFW Post 1463, 14 N. Spruce St., Lititz, PA 17543

**JAMES J. MASON
WEST MICHIGAN**
POC: Bob Anderson
9030 Conservancy Dr. NE
Ada, MI 49301-8822
(616) 682-5446
Email: rj.anderson2243@comcast.net
Website: jjmwmc1cd.com
Meets on 3rd Thurs of Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, and Dec, at 7pm, at the Grand Valley Armory in Wyoming, MI.

JUMPING MUSTANGS 1-8 Cav
Pres: Wayne Volk
3106 Nebraska Drive, Unit 2
Bismarck, ND 58503
(701) 226-9929 or (701) 527-1262
E-mail: lois.reinhardt@midco.net
POC: James C. Knafel
5510E - 500 South
Columbia City, IN 46725-7621
(260) 244-3864
Email: jjknafel@gmail.com
Website: www.JumpingMustangs.com

KETTLE MORaine
Pres: Fred Douglas
2742 E. Main St, Lot 5
East Troy, WI 53120-1379
(262) 379-9930
Email: FDouglass@centurytel.net
POC: Michael Lorber
4819 Longwood Dr., Mt. Pleasant, WI 53403-9769
(262) 554-8310
We meet quarterly on 2nd Sat of Mar, Jun, Sept at 12pm at the Bunker in Waterford, WI. Election of officers are the 2nd Sat of Dec at 12pm at Meyers Restaurant in Greenfield, WI.



**LOS ANGELES/
ORANGE COUNTY**
Pres: John Guillory
780 Mandevilla Way
Corona, CA 92879-8251
(951) 283-7458
Email: manhunter6869@yahoo.com
Vice Pres: Scott Alexander
5310 Silver Canyon Road A
Yorba Linda, CA 92887
Email: salexander48@hotmail.com
Meets quarterly (Jan, Apr, Jul, Oct) 0900 on 3rd Sat of mos at American Legion Post 132, 143 S Lemon St., Orange, CA 92866

**LRPP/RANGER of the 1st Cav
Division during the Vietnam War**
Pres: Doug Matze
9623 Springhouse Dr.
Chesterfield, VA 23832-9304
(804) 790-1955
Email: Doug.Matze@yahoo.com
Website: www.lrrprangers.com
Full chapter meeting during Reunions.

NEW YORK/NEW JERSEY
Pres: Robin B. Bartlett
63 Burlington St.
Norwood, NJ 07648-1515
(201) 856-7530
Email: RBBartlett01@gmail.com
Facebook: New York New Jersey Cavalry
Instagram: NYNJcavalry
Meets quarterly at Elk Lodge 25 Cedar St, Ridgefield Park, NJ, 10am-1:30pm. Free coffee & buffet lunch. Send email to be added to mailing list for updates on upcoming meetings.

**NORTH CAROLINA
TARHEEL**
Pres: Johnny Parker
10915 Tradition View Dr.
Charlotte, NC 28269-1411
(704) 517-5445
Email: shagon19@gmail.com
Contact for Membership: Don Gibson
803 McDonald Church Road
Rockingham, NC 28379-8529
(910) 417-9104
Email: dtbjgibson@gmail.com
Meets 2nd Sat of Mar, Jun, Sept & Dec.

**SHERIDAN'S CAVALRY
(Greater Chicago Area)**
Pres: Don Smolinski 630-841-1452
Temp POC: Donna Pacanowski
6043 W. 59th St
Chicago, IL 60638-3553
(312) 401-0548
Email: dnnpcnws9@gmail.com
Facebook: Sheridan's Chapter 1st Cavalry Division
2024 meeting dates are March 9, May 11, Picnic August 10, October 12, Christmas Party December 7, 2024. All Meetings and events held at Roselle American Legion Post #1084, 344 East Maple Ave., Roselle, IL 60172.

**WALTER H. WESTMAN
NORTHLAND**
Pres: James D. Wright
12781 Able St. NE
Blaine, MN 55434-3261
(763) 757-7140
Email: 1stCav-MN@comcast.net
Facebook: Walter H Westman-Northland Chapter 1st Cavalry Division Association
We meet quarterly, locatons change each time to different areas of the state. Call for updated information.

**WILLIAM A. RICHARDSON
NATIONAL CAPITOL REGION**
Pres: Linda Jantzen
3913 Ridge Road
Annandale, VA 22003
(210) 849-9036
Email: signalinda88@gmail.com
Facebook: 1st Cavalry Division Nat'l Capitol Region
Meets 3rd Sat in Jan-May off Jun-Aug. Meets again Sept-Dec. Nov meeting held in conjunction with 1CDA Veterans Day gathering.

Send us YOUR Chapter photo, so it can appear in the next issue!

CROSSED SABERS GIFT SHOP located at 1CDA HQ



Scan the QR code to view the Online Catalog or type shop.1CDA.org into your web browser.

302 N. Main St Copperas Cove, TX 76544

254-532-2075

1stCavGiftShop@gmail.com

NEW HOURS!

WE OFFER STETSON RE-SHAPING!
(FOR DONATIONS)

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SAT 10 am - 2 pm

Get all your Cav-Tastic souvenirs here!

Books, Challenge Coins, Clothing, Crafts, Flags, Hats, Jewelry, License Plates, Medals, Military Brass, Patches, Pins, Stetson & Accessories, Ties, Unit Stickers & Much More!

The Crossed Sabers Gift Shop is a Non-Profit Organization. Net income is distributed to the Association for the Scholarship Program and to the Soldier Travel Fund, which allows active duty Soldiers of the Division to attend away Reunions as guests of the Association.

We accept telephone orders with payment by MASTERCARD, VISA, DISCOVER or AMERICAN EXPRESS or you can order online at shop.1CDA.org using your credit card.

Printed Catalogs Are Available for \$5.00!

Make your check payable to 1st Cavalry Division Association and mail to: 302 N. Main St., Copperas Cove, TX 76522-1703.

Stop by to visit the
Crossed Sabers Gift Shop
set up at the Louisville Reunion
to check out some new merchandise!

GOT CAVALRY HISTORICAL QUESTIONS?

Did you know we have a 1CDA Historian?


Reach out to Dennis Webster with any questions, or information regarding 1st Cavalry Division history!

Dennis.Webster7@gmail.com or 254-220-2164

From the
Director's Desk

office of 1CDA

WE SUPPORT



The mission statement for *Soldier for Life* is to connect Army, governmental, and community efforts to build relationships that facilitate successful reintegration of our retiring Soldiers, Veterans, and their Families in order to keep them Army Strong and instill their values, ethos, and leadership within communities.

Soldiers start strong, serve strong, reintegrate strong, and ultimately remain strong as Army ambassadors to their communities. The 1st Cavalry Division Association (1CDA) and its members will help to ensure Veterans connect to resources and their communities as they make the important transition from Active, Reserve, Guard or become civilian leaders. The 1CDA stands ready to help prepare those Soldiers to thrive as civilians and Veterans.

Why is this important to the Association?
The *Soldier for Life* concept helps Veterans ‘bridge the gap’ from the service through reintegration into their communities. The 1CDA has 25 chapters across the US to help facilitate veterans during their reintegration and beyond. It is here that their Army Story becomes a legacy that perpetuates the proud traditions of the 1st Cavalry Division. “Once Cav, Always Cav.... First Team.”

1st CAVALRY DIVISION
WALKING HISTORY TOUR

If you’re visiting Fort Cavazos, be sure to visit the 1st Cavalry Division Headquarters (Bldg. 28000). They now have a free 1st Cavalry Division Walking History Tour. The tour is outdoors. It starts at the south entrance of Heritage Hall (1st Cav HQ) and walks around Cooper Field. Open to the public. If you want to watch from the comforts of your home, check out this link:
<<https://youtu.be/zE5npJiKpUo>>

You can also visit the Horse Cavalry Detachment for a barn tour, located behind the National Mounted Warfare Museum (projected to open July 2024). They also do their weekly Cav Demonstration on Thursdays, 10am at the stables. The Detachment and the Museum are not on post; therefore, no visitor’s pass is needed.

Stetsons are available in our Gift Shop,
but no longer listed on our website.

Call & order your Stetson today!

Stetson Hat Company has created a new online pricing policy for Stetsons. If we were to advertise & sell them on our website, we would have to list them at \$269.99.

Therefore, we have made the decision to NOT list the hats on our website and keep our price of \$199.99.

If you have any questions or concerns, please give us a call at 254-532-2075.

PRICE INCREASE

Effective 1 July 2023

Due to the increased prices of paper, printing and postage, the price for the *Saber* newspaper will increase to \$20 per year (6 issues) or you have the option to purchase 5 years for \$75.

As of 1 January 2022
ALL BOUNCED CHECKS WILL INCUR A \$25 FEE.

The next *Saber* newspaper is the
July / August 2024 edition.
Deadline for submissions of your stories or photos is
Monday, July 1, 2024.
Please email to Programs@1CDA.org

Be a Saber Writer

CARRY ON YOUR UNIT LEGACY!

Share YOUR Stories

Email for details: programs@1CDA.org

COMMEMORATE A
FALLEN COMRADE

with our **Brick & Paver Campaign**

Buy a brick to be engraved & placed by
Heritage Hall at Division Headquarters

9th CAV SCRIBE NEEDED

If you are interested in sharing your 9th Cav stories
or writing for this column, please call the office
or email us at
<Programs@1CDA.org>

DONATION CHECKS

When sending in multiple donations to either Association, Foundation and IaDrang, we ask if you could please do it by writing out separate checks to each entity.

It will make the banking process smoother since they are all separate bank accounts.

Many Thanks!

USEFUL VETERAN ASSISTANCE INFO:

<<https://www.archives.gov/>> National Archives & Records Administration, Veteran service records

<<https://www.archives.gov/personnel-records-center>> Central repository of personnel-related records for both the military and civil services of the United States Government. 314-801-0800

<<https://www.veteranmedals.army.mil/>> U.S. Army Veteran Medals

<<https://nvf.org/>> National Veterans Foundation: crisis management, information and referral needs of all U.S. Veterans and their families. 310-642-0255
Vet-to-Vet toll-free helpline: 888-777-4443

<<https://nationalresourcedirectory.gov/>> Dept of Veteran Affairs, The National Resource Directory is a searchable database of resources vetted for Service members, Veterans, family members and caregivers. 800-342-9647

<<https://www.veteranscrisisline.net/>> Veterans Crisis Line 800-273-8255

<<https://www.dav.org/>> Disabled American Vets is a non-profit charity that provides a lifetime of support for Veterans of all generations and their families. 877-426-2838

SPECIFICALLY FOR TEXAS VETERANS

<www.TVC.texas.gov> Texas Veterans Commission advocates for all Texas Veterans, assisting with: VA Claims, Employment, Education, Entrepreneurship, and VA Healthcare Advocacy. 254-238-7124

<<https://www.texvet.org/>> Informative resource guide for Texas Veterans and family members. 512-341-4924

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Embossed Aluminum Medallion

1CDA Cav Medallion Order Form
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Embossed Aluminum Medallion
with 3M Automotive Grade Adhesive Back

\$30.00 ea

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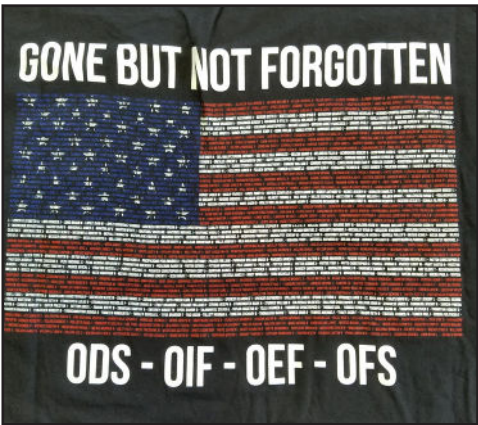
BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!
We are restocked with Tribute & Vietnam Shirts
Both are available in short sleeve & long sleeve!

TRIBUTE SHIRTS

Description: 100% cotton black shirt
Front: white Cav patch on upper left breast
Back: says "GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN" and lists the
names of our fallen Troopers from ODS, OIF, OEF, OFS in
red, white and blue.



Front



Back Design

1st Cavalry Division Shirts Order Form

Short Sleeve Shirts \$23 each
Long Sleeve Shirts \$26 each

FREE SHIPPING

TRIBUTE SHIRTS (fallen Troopers from ODS, OIF, OEF, OFS)

Description: Black shirt w/white Cav patch

Short Sleeve _____ M, _____ L, _____ XL, _____ 2XL, _____ 3XL

Long Sleeve _____ M, _____ L, _____ XL, _____ 2XL, _____ 3XL

VIETNAM SHIRTS ("Remembering 5,618" Cav Troopers)

Description: Gray shirt w/black Cav patch

Short Sleeve _____ M, _____ L, _____ XL, _____ 2XL, _____ 3XL

Long Sleeve _____ M, _____ L, _____ XL, _____ 2XL, _____ 3XL

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302 N. Main St.
Copperas Cove, TX 76522

SHIPPING & HANDLING IS FREE

VIETNAM SHIRTS

Description: 100% cotton grey shirt
Front: Cav Patch with years 1965-1972 written above, Vietnam
written across the Baldric
Back: "Remembering 5,618" with Color image of Memorial
Wall & Flag



Front



Back Design

ENGINEER News



Steve Richey
P.O. Box 250
Wildomar, CA 92595-0250
(714) 931-3123
D9Dozer@verizon.net

Officer for three equipment sections. That was a two-year time line with most of the NCO's and Officers remaining the same. He told me he reads my column in the Saber and has read Skybeavers I.

He and six enlisted men flew from Ft. Benning to Mobile, in a Caribou. That had a 3/4 ton truck with them and a full load of ammo. They left before his orders were cut. He saw a copy of them 48 years later. He finally saw the orders giving him the authorization to do what he had done so long ago.

They arrived in Mobile to go with three companies of equipment to Quin Non, Vietnam, to take the first shipment of equipment to the 8th Engineers to An Khe. They were on the ship for about three weeks. They came through the Panama canal, then to San Diego to refuel the Mayo Lykes, fueled again in Manilla, and then when room would be made for them to off load their equipment, on to Quin Non, Vietnam. They had to offload their equipment on shuttle crafts to get from their boat to the shore, when they arrived in Nam. The official 1st Cav after-action report said the bridges from Quy Nhon to An Khe had been blown out, but that was incorrect. They were damaged, but still passable.

Roy was a 2LT when he arrived in Nam. He told me of testing equipment for airlifting with helicopters. The chinhooks had a beam the length of the belly the sling hook was attached to. The beam flexed under a load. Coupled with the nylon sling straps, often when a load was picked up, a harmonic motion would soon occur, making the load actually bob up and down like a yoyo and increase in amplitude (bounce higher) making the load unmanageable and dangerous to have attached, so a lot of loads got punched out and dropped. He told me of two motor grader rear halves, being dropped, one in the testing area on a base where he was doing the testing in the US, one along the side of a road in South Carolina as they were flying from one point to another. To fix the problem, they came up with a better way to use slings. One of the immediate fixes was to make two of four sling legs shorter, to dampen the bouncing up and down of the load. The shorter slings acted as a damper on the movement restricting the bouncing action.

He mentioned a lot of men: MAJ McClelland, Ron Cook, COL Malley, SGTs Southall, Rivera, and Horrell, Paul Cerian (Ret LTG), Dan Brazil, CPT Richardson, Don Peters, and SGT Saffoll and remembers the names of all the long-term staff. I know I've misspelled some or all of these names, and hopefully, someone will correct me. I was taking a lot of notes and didn't want to disrupt the flow of information, dotting "I's" and crossing "t's." Roy's information was amazing.

He was allowed to build only three roads across the Golf Course at An Khe. When the advanced party, Troop unit 2nd Platoon of "C" company arrived at An Khe, they didn't have any equipment and all the work was being done with hand labor. That same platoon was renamed at the withdrawal from Nam as the last 1st Cav unit to leave. They started early and hung tough, to the end. He was in charge of the equipment that built Hong Kong Mountain. One dozer was damaged so badly, from pushing around rocks, then cutting a road on the side of the mountain all the way to the base, they took it apart, and with acetylene torches and come-alongs, straightened the frame. Both push arms were dragging the ground when it got to the bottom of the hill after cutting the road. That's amazing. He told me he had 38 chain saws that only lasted 6 weeks due to the intensive use. There are pictures of An Khe when he got there in "I Remember: Skybeaver II."

LZ Krystal was named after a CW4 and later became Phu Cat air force base. Roy was the OIC to build the first air strip there after opening LZ Pony as the XO, "B" Co. He also involved the equipment and worked at LZ Hammond, where Marty Suydam was building the LZ, and LZ English. Both of these LZ's were named after 8th Engineers.

He told me about sectionalized equipment designed by the Army to be airlifted, but was such bad equipment, they got rid of all of it. A Second LT by the name of Don Peterson wrote a report on the Army designed sectionalized equipment (B.E.S.T.) and every piece of it was then discarded. Roy Wood used the very first bobcat sent to Vietnam after trials at Ft. Benning. He also told me about a caribou that had turned too wide and a dirt airstrip where the surrounding ground was very soft. One side wheel sank in some soft dirt. Being real "get it done" type guys, they dug a trench in front of the wheel, dropped in a sheet of PSP, attached a cable to the wheel, then had the pilot fire up his engines, and got the plane back on the runway. 8th Engineers. No problem went unsolved. Roy told me he oversaw the equipment, but all he needed to do was supply the operators with fuel, ammo, and food. They knew what they were doing and did their work well. He would tell them what needed to be done and they would see to it, it was. Two of his NCO's were WWII Vets, and one was a Korean Vet. All he had to do was tell them what needed to be done, and they saw to it, it was.

I could have talked to Roy for hours, but I had the good luck to have a beautiful woman with me I needed to get to another location, so, given the choice of talking to a wonderfully interesting 85-year-old Vietnam Vet about events in the past, or spend time with a gorgeous woman in the present, the choice was a no brainer. Roy was in a rear area after coming out of the field, with the usually thick layer of mud on him, especially his shoes. Some rear area Major got on him about having muddy unpolished boots. It was the straw that broke the camel's back. He was undecided about staying in the Army up until that point. The Major made the decision for him. He got out of the Army, went back home, and found good work, and had a great life.

I hope to talk with Roy more. He and Marty Suydam are like talking to history books and they are incredibly interesting to talk with. Both accomplished so much, and both were damn good Soldiers.

After reading GEN Pershing's book on WWI, I realized you can't fight a war, without the engineers building nearly everything needed to build shipping docks and warehouses, build roads and railroads, to move supplies, build housing for the Troops, then build all the fighting camps, forts, LZ's, foxholes, clear the land, and so very much more. It doesn't happen without engineers making it possible to happen and often, pick up a rifle, as we did so many times out on the LZ's, and fight tenaciously which so many of us did. GEN Smith once told me, "The engineers don't have to back up to anyone." Of all the units he served with while he was in the Army, he was proudest of the time he served in the 8th Engineers and the men he served with. I agree with him.

Please contact the scribe to share your Engineer stories to appear here!

I spoke with Roy Wood today, 336-707-1402. He now lives in Colorado. Moved there to be near his grandkids. He's 83. He was a second LT in 1964 and in the 11th Aviation(test), which later was renamed the 1st Cav. He was a Plt Ldr in "C" Co and then the Engineering Equipment

DIVISION DOINGS

Continued from pg. 11

Sustainment Troopers Celebrate Jackie Robinsons Legacy

by SGT Alex Romey

Troopers from the 1st Cavalry Division Sustainment Brigade participated in the 2nd Annual 42K Jackie Robinson Ruck March, held in Houston, Texas, on April 14 and 15 to honor the resiliency, determination, and barrier-breaking that Jackie Robinson did in his lifetime.



Jackie Robinson, the first African American to play in the MLB, is a symbol of personal courage and sacrifice for the greater good. His values of standing up against adversity and paving the way for equal opportunities resonate deeply with the U.S. Army, fostering a strong sense of unity and shared purpose.

SGT Arouna Sangare, a participant in the challenging 42K march, found a profound connection with Jackie Robinson's journey. He saw his own challenges mirrored in Robinson's, and this personal connection underscored the importance of perseverance in the face of obstacles, a value deeply ingrained in the U.S. Army. This shared journey of resilience and determination, inspired by Robinson's legacy, is what makes the Troopers' participation in the ruck march so powerful.

The 1CDSB embodied its Brigade motto, 'Standards and Discipline,' as everyone embraced leadership during the march. Troopers were not just tested on their mental fortitude and physical endurance, but also on their ability to work as a team. They shared their journey of resilience and determination, reflecting on equality and inclusion in America and U.S. Army. This display of leadership and teamwork is a testament to the strength and unity of the 1CDSB.

The temporary discomfort experienced during the ruck march was a mere fraction of the challenges endured by Jackie Robinson, said CPT Luke Smith. Smith, who had the opportunity to interact with J.C. Hartman, the first African American player signed by the Houston Astros, took Hartman's advice, 'Do the right thing,' to heart. He emphasized the Army's crucial role in providing a solid framework for life, a foundation built on the practice of the Army Values, hard work, and the ability to interact with others positively. This framework offers a sense of security and stability, which is invaluable in the face of challenges.

One of Jackie Robinson's profound quotes, "A life is not important except in the impact it has on other lives," resonated LTC DeShaunda Allen, the Deputy Commander of 1CDSB. Her Troopers felt motivated to keep up and persevere through the ruck as she led the formation by setting the pace and maintaining unity. During designated resting points, she recognized the hardships everyone on her team felt, which helped her overcome any mental or physical obstacles.

This sense of unity and camaraderie makes the Army community solid and resilient. 1st Cavalry Division Troopers strive for excellence, collectively building each other up to be the "First Team" of Teams.

SEEKING OCS ALUMNI

The U.S. Army Officer Candidate School Alumni Association (TUSAOCSSAA) is looking for graduates of Army OCS. Since 1941 OCS has trained many of America's finest leaders. Alumni serve this nation as Army officers and later as influential community leaders, industrial giants, government administrators, elected officials, and national spearheads. TUSAOCSSAA fosters fellowship, highlights OCS history, and memorializes OCS graduates lost in service to our nation.

The OCS Alumni Association is reaching out to graduates from every Army OCS program and location. We seek new company grade officers, seasoned field grades, general officers, Active, Guard, Reserve, Veterans and retired. Since 1973 all OCS programs were consolidated under the Branch Immaterial Officer Candidate Courses (BIOCC). Our ranks are filled with fellow graduates reaching from today all the way back to WWII. Some distinguished Alumni include Senators Tom Cotton and Bob Dole; Secretary of Defense Casper Weinberger; Generals Tommy Franks and Fritz Kroesen. We also boast numerous Medal of Honor recipients.

The Association facilitates an annual reunion each spring. This year will include the induction of several alumni into the OCS Hall of Fame. We will tour the OCS Heritage Center highlighting history and achievements in every OCS era. We will dedicate bricks, pavers, and class memorials into the OCS Memorial Walk and lush rose garden in the OCS Battalion area. Mini-class reunions are welcome to meet during the national reunion. OCS transformed all our lives. It is truly an amazing experience to meet people from every OCS decade with whom we share a common bond.

Be proud of your source of commission. Learn more by visiting:

<<https://www.ocsalumni.org>>

or contact MAJ (Ret) Mike Harris at <harrisnva@msn.com>.

Get to know those who scouted the trail for you to follow.

Standards! No Compromise!!

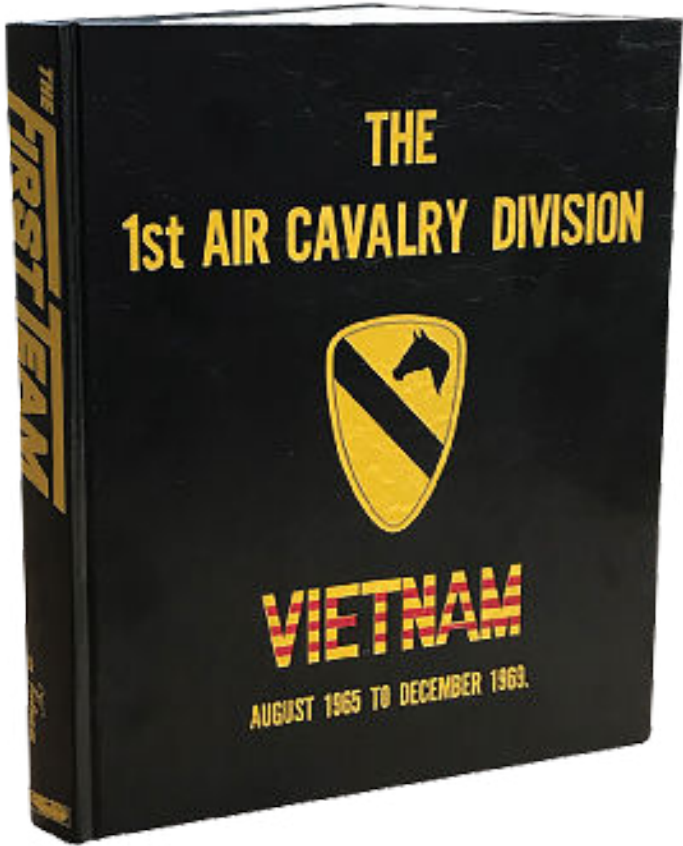


THE 1ST AIR CAVALRY DIVISION: MEMOIRS OF THE FIRST TEAM IN VIETNAM-
SPECIAL REPRINT EDITION

In 1970, the Division published a full-color hardbound commemorative book to document the time spent by 1st Cavalry Skytroopers in Vietnam, from 1965-69. Many of our members received a copy of this special book nearly 50 years ago, but over time the books were lost, damaged or worn down from frequent use. This reprint is identical to the original printing that rolled off the presses in 1970, but brand new and in pristine condition!

The 1st Air Cavalry Division in Vietnam-Special Reprint is a 10x12-inch, oversized hardbound volume with 296 pages with hundreds of full-color photos, printed on heavy-weight glossy paper for superior photo reproduction, with sturdy smyth-sewn binding for longevity, and bound in a classy black leatherette cover with full-color silk screening. Please mail us your completed order form located below. Only \$85 with **FREE SHIPPING!**

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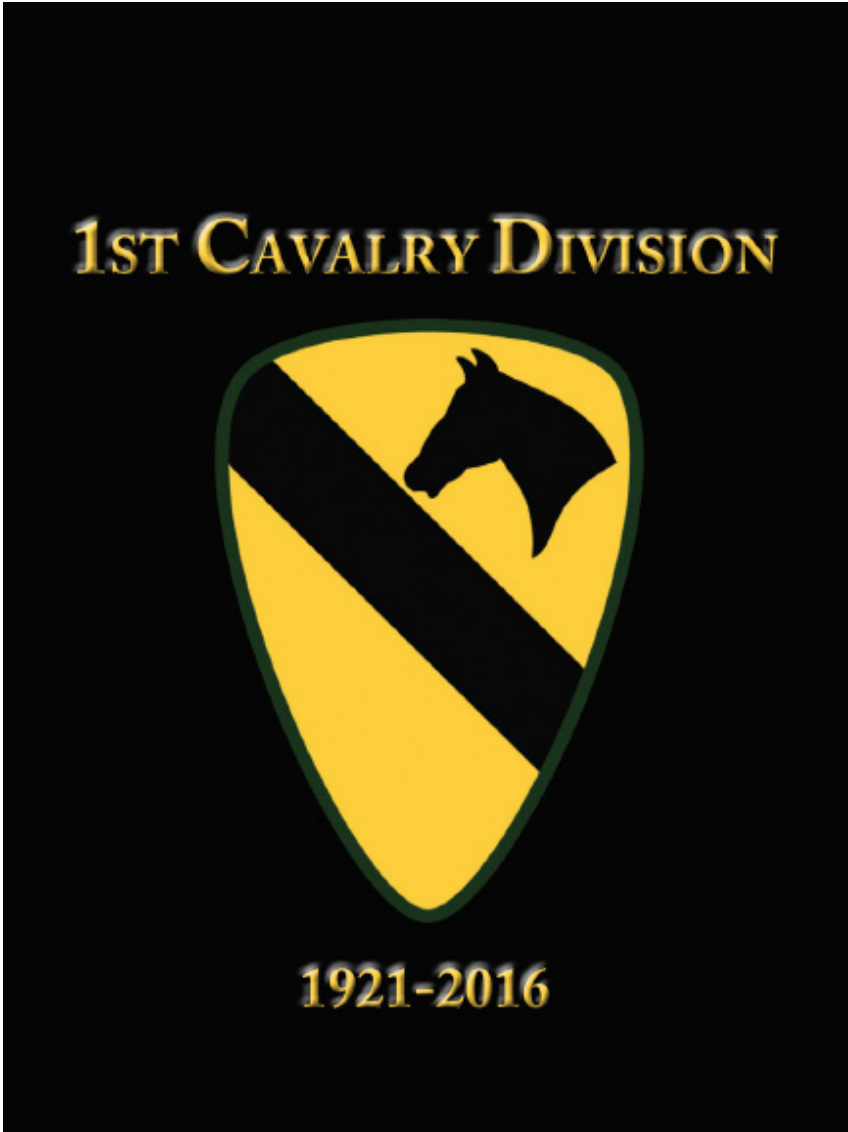
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Copperas Cove, TX 76522

SHIPPING IS FREE

FIRST TEAM HISTORY BOOK

- Our final shipment has arrived. Limited-edition, commemorative 1st Cavalry Division history book. This is the same history book we offered in 2019.
- Includes a detailed history of the 1st Cav Division from WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Bosnia, the Gulf War, and the War of Terror, including its founders, training, engagements, responsibilities today, and more.
 - Historical overview of the 1st Cavalry Division Association.
 - Richly illustrated with historic and modern photographs, charts and diagrams
 - Personal biographies from 1st Cav Division Veterans, with “then and now” photos
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This quality publication is printed on number one grade, acid-free, double-coated glossy paper to ensure the highest caliber photo reproduction, and smyth-sewn for longevity, meaning the pages are stitched together and bound to last. This Deluxe Hardbound Edition is bound in a classy, black leatherette cover for only \$55.00.



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SHIPPING IS FREE

DESERT STORM MEMORIAL
DONATIONS
ARE BEING ACCEPTED

Donations are still being collected for the moving of the 15 current Desert Shield / Desert Storm markers that represent the 15 Troopers lost during that conflict.

The current markers are at the old 1st Cavalry Division Museum on post and will have to be moved to the Memorial on Cooper Field.

Please make all Desert Storm Memorial Donations checks payable to the 1CDA Foundation and specify the Desert Storm Memorial in the memo.

All donations to the Foundation
are tax exempt.

1st CAVALRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION
15TH ANNUAL WASHINGTON D.C.
VETERANS DAY RECEPTION

Crowne Plaza Washington National Airport Hotel, 1480 Crystal Drive, Arlington, Virginia. Call 703-416-1600 to get your reservations and tell them you are with the 1st Cavalry Division.

Due to lower attendance at the last two Veterans Day events, we are changing a few things up. Instead of planning a dinner it will be more of a reception-like event with finger food in the hospitality room. The hospitality room will continue with beer, wine, and snacks. The cost will change to \$50 per attendee to help cover beer, wine, and finger food. Once our numbers begin to beef back up, we will go back to planning a dinner to close out the weekend.

- For accountability, please submit the order form along with your money to the 1st Cavalry Division Association, 302 N. Main St., Copperas Cove, TX 76522-1703.
- Full payment must be received no later than **31 October 2024**.
- We can accept all credit cards – ensure that your card number and expiration dates are written correctly and legibly.
- Provide your name, address, unit you served with and the name(s) of your guests with your payment.

Wreaths will be placed at the World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam Memorials as they are each year on Veterans Day, 11 November. The ceremony conducted at the World War II Memorial begins at 0900, the ceremony at the Vietnam Memorial begins at 1300 hours, and the Korean War Memorial ceremony is at 1600. Join us in D.C. for Veterans Day.



1CD Honor Guard
photos from
Veterans Day 2023



TROOPER'S TALE

Continued from pg. 3
Vietnam. Assigned to the 1st Cavalry Division, CPT Nawrosky was wounded in action during Operation Pegasus, the relief of the besieged Marine post at Khe Sanh. As reported earlier, CPT Nawrosky died of complications from one of his surgeries. CPT Nawrosky, in my opinion, was a great man and leader and would most likely been wearing stars had his military career continued. There were 23 grads from the West Point Class of 1964 killed in Vietnam.

John F. Murray wrote *“Fallen Warriors,”* a book to honor his class of 1964 classmates, Michael Nawrosky being one of them.

LTC Robert Leslie Runkle was commanding officer for 1st Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment, when his command helicopter was shot down on April 14, 1968. LTC Funkle is buried at the Ft. Benning Post Cemetery and his marker indicates he served in WWII, Korea, and Vietnam. Runkle was posthumously inducted into the Army Aviation Hall of Fame on April 11, 1980, as a result of his work to use machine guns and rockets mounted on helicopters to bring close-in fire support in combat. This was during an earlier deployment to Vietnam with the first Helicopter Company sent there in 1961.

CPT Joseph Franklin Lyttle Jr. was serving on the 1st Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment staff when LTC Runkle selected him to take command of B Company after CPT Nawrosky was wounded. The helicopter taking Runkle and Lyttle to B Co was shot down with Lyttle the only survivor of 7 onboard. Lyttle had previously served as C Co 1/5 Commander in the summer and fall of 1967. Lyttle worked for many years in Warm Springs, GA as a supervisor with other paralyzed individuals. CPT Lyttle passed away on Dec 3, 2004, and is buried at Augusta Memorial Park in Waynesboro, VA.

TROOPER'S TALE COLUMN

was created for our members to
share your photos or long lost 1CD war stories.

Please consider sharing yours!

Send to Programs@1CDA.org

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

15th ANNUAL VETERANS DAY RECEPTION

\$50 per TICKET

Monday, 11 November 2024

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302 N. Main St.
Copperas Cove, TX 76522-1703

You can fill out the above Veterans Day Reception form and return in the mail or go to our website, <www.1CDA.org> Click on the button to download the form, print the form, fill out and mail with payment to the Association office in Copperas Cove, Texas.

FIRST TEAM

545th MP Co News

Lawrence Gardner Ketron

232 New Beason Well Rd
Kingsport, TN 37660
(423) 967-8226
LGKetron@earthlink.net



The 545th MP Company of the 1st Cavalry Division (AIRMOBILE)

To the reader community:
I have been asked to author a series of articles

about the experiences of the men of the 545th MP Company of the 1st Cavalry Division (AIRMOBILE). I joined the company in July of 1964, shortly after its inception at Ft. Benning, GA, as the 11th MP Company of the 11th Air Assault Division (TEST). The men still alive in the original company of 1964-1966 are now in their late 70's and early 80's and wanted their stories documented while they could still remember them. This I will attempt.

AS TOLD BY AL RAMPMEIER
BASED ON HIS NOTES MADE IN 1965

I had been assigned to the 545th MP as platoon leader of the second platoon shortly before the departure to Vietnam. The 2nd platoon was loaded onto the Troop ship General William O. Darby at Charleston, SC, about August 15th. The lower ranks of the platoon were berthed below decks at the bow of the ship where they suffered the effects of the waves. I was assigned to a stateroom along with two male nurses and a doctor of a medical detachment. One of the duties assigned to the MP platoon by the ship Troop commander, COL Stockton was to enforce the dress code. Another duty was to provide guards over the four or five prisoners in the brig. COL Stockton had three prisoners confined there for being AWOL. Part of their punishment was a diet of bread and water. I found out sometime later that the MP guards sneaked regular rations into the prisoners.

There were 2136 Soldiers on board. After departing Charleston on the way to the Panama Canal, the ship passed within fifteen miles of Cuba. At that time Cuba and the US were not in a good relationship. The Darby crossed the International Dateline on September 3rd. The ship averaged about five hundred miles per day at a rate of 20.1 knots. On September 8th, the Darby passed through the tail of typhoon Shirley. At that point we were 1,728 miles from Vietnam and 5,628 miles from Long Beach, CA. On September 13th the Darby was at anchor in Qui Nhon Bay where MG Kinnard and BG Knowles came on board. On September 14th the Troops began unloading and moving to An Khe on Chinooks.

Attendee panel closed.

WE FINALLY ARRIVED AT QUI NHON BAY, VIETNAM,
ABOUT 15 SEP 65

Since there were no port facilities at Qui Nhon, using our one-time introduction to cargo nets before leaving Ft. Benning, most of the Troops went down landing nets to board landing craft that transported them from the Patch to the beach. Based on what other members of the company have said, they were then loaded into trucks to be taken to the airport and flown to the base that was under construction outside the village of An Khe. Your author was one of about sixty men who were held on board for a couple of days, the reason being that this group was to drive vehicles via PL19 (highway 19) from Qui Nhon to the base. Per Jim Kessler, he was held on board for a while to guard the ship until its departure. On the appointed day a landing craft came alongside a door in the starboard side. The drivers exited through the door into the landing craft. The process was to toss your two bags into the boat, wait until the boat rose on a swell, and then with your weapon jump aboard. A boat crew member was standing there to grab each man in case of a loss of balance. A Soldier with rifle and ammunition would likely sink fast. Your author was carrying both an M16 and a 45 pistol with ammunition for both. The landing craft made toward shore, and to our surprise, had large tires whereby it was driven up on the beach. No splashing through the surf for us!

OUR FIRST INTERACTION WITH THE LOCAL POPULATION

Not knowing exactly where to go, the driver pulled up to an opening in the dunes that opened onto a paved street and then let the ramp down. There then appeared a small Vietnamese boy carrying a coconut. He approached the passengers and in good English, said "GI want to buy a coconut?" Having paid close attention to the training films about booby traps that were shown to us while en route and

suspecting that there might be a grenade inside the coconut, everyone declined the offer. The boy then pulled a deck of poker cards out of a pocket, spread them on his arm and flipped the deck back and forth. His next words were "GI want to play poker?" Everyone respectively declined his offer. That broke the ice. He had been hanging around a group of American Seabees.

The landing craft driver evidently was not sure where to take the cargo, so he parked the craft there with the ramp down. The next block was surrounded by concertina wire and inside the wire were stacks of

c-ration boxes. A group of children of various ages was observed ambling along heading in the direction of the craft. All of a sudden, one child broke from the group, darted through the wire, grabbed a case of c-rations, went back out through the wire and was gone!

Shortly thereafter the driver raised the ramp, reentered the water, proceeded down the beach, and came out of the water where vehicles were scattered along the dunes. The passengers were told to find a vehicle and drive it to a gathering place in order to form a convoy. Bob Stamey and your author walked along searching for a suitable vehicle. Your author, knowing from pursuit experience that a multi-fuel deuce and a half would outrun an M-151, was of the opinion that that would be best choice. The only one that was available had dead batteries. Both Bob and your author ended up with M-37's (the old Dodge ¾ powered by a flathead inline six). Remember that all vehicles were loaded with equipment belonging to the companies to which the vehicle was assigned, and both the canvas and windshields were down.

The drivers with vehicles were gathered to form the convoy and receive instructions. For each vehicle, there were two Soldiers assigned to ride shotgun. Your author was assigned two sergeants, one sitting in the passenger seat and one sitting atop the cargo.

DON'T LOAD YOUR WEAPONS!

A warrant officer was in charge of the convoy. Your author thought this to be rather strange since typically warrant officers are technicians, not trained so much in fighting techniques. About the only instructions, which were promptly ignored, was not to load your weapons, the road is secure. Why did the 1st Cav travel halfway around the world if the road is secure?

There were also some artillery pieces which were being towed. The convoy had only traveled a few miles when the rear brakes of the ¾ in front of your author began smoking. The convoy was stopped for the problem to be corrected, but there were no tools to be had. Evidently the emergency brake cables had rusted on the trip over and would not release. The WO in charge ordered the howitzer being towed by the disabled ¾ to be attached to the vehicle being driven by your author. The WO also ordered the disabled ¾ with cargo to be abandoned beside the road. Your author has always wondered if the unit to which the ¾ was assigned had any critical items in it. The cargo probably disappeared before the convoy was out of sight.

Heading west on Highway 19, the convoy passed through villages that sat astraddle the road, giving the convoy occupants a good glimpse of the countryside and the local population. The terrain, being very flat, was evidently great for growing rice, since rice paddies were everywhere. The ¾ being driven by your author just hummed right along with the weight of the howitzer not noticeable.

AND THEN THE TERRAIN CHANGED!

The terrain began to look more and more like back home in some parts of the US. There began a change in elevation and instead of being straight for as far as a body could see, there were curves and steep vegetation covered hillsides beside the road. And then the weight of the howitzer began to affect the performance of the ¾ driven by your author! To the younger generations, the transmission of the ¾ was a 4-speed new process with an unsynchronized first gear (bulldog/granny). The old flathead six would bog down in second gear and your author would double clutch to get in first gear, wind that old six to the max, shift to second until it bogged down again, and repeat the process to go to first. All the time this was going on, your author was thinking, number one, an enemy could just trot alongside of this old truck and pop one in my ear, and number two, that thing that was being pulled would surely make this old truck an inviting target!

Please contact the scribe to share your 545th MP stories to appear here!

TAPS:

We were notified of the following deaths:
ACEVEDO, SGT Vincent T., B Co, 2BSTB, 2005, & A Co, DSTB, 2008. 18 February 2024.
ANDERSON, SGT Howard P., C Co, 2-7 CAV, 1969-70. 24 January 2024.
BARBCKOCK, CPT William H., B Trp, 1-9 CAV, 1967-68. 23 February 2024.
BARNETT, SGT Danny K., D Co, 2-8 CAV, 1968-69. 17 April 2024.
CRAWFORD, SGT John S., A Trp, 1-9 CAV, 1968-69. 29 Dec 2023.
GRASSO, SGT Anthony T., C Co, 2-7 CAV, 1968. 13 March 2024.
HOGAN, SGT Jerry W., B Trp, 1-9 CAV, 1969-71. 23 February 2024.
KALKMAN, 2LT Donald W. Jr., HQ, 2-19 FA & C Co, 1-8 CAV, 1963. 28 March 2024.
MILLER, CPT Daniel J. Jr., A Trp, 1-9 CAV, 1970-71. 27 May 2022.
POTTER, CW4 (RET) Leroy D., F Trp, 1-9 CAV, 1972-73. 13 August 2023.
RHODES, SP4 Gary L., C Co, 1-12 CAV, 1965-67. 4 March 2024.
RICHARDS, SGT Jerry R., C Co, 1-12 CAV, 1967-68. 21 March 2024.
RUSSELL, COL (RET) Eugene "Gene" N., B Co, 1-5 CAV & HHC, G-3, 1CD, 1969-70. 29 March 2024.
SKOLE, T-5 Robert, MED, 8 CAV, 1945. 17 January 2024.
YOUNG, MAJ (RET) Chester D., D Co, 1-7 CAV & HHC, 1-7 CAV, 1968. 6 January 2024.
ZORN, 1LT Thomas F., 1-9 CAV, 1969-70. 14 February 2024.

ACTIVE-DUTY TAPS:

We have been notified of the following non-combat Active-Duty deaths:
CRUMIDY, PFC Keshawn X., 15BSB, 2022-24. 11 March 2024.

OTHER REUNIONS:

Angry Skipper D/2-8 Cav Reunion, 29 May-1 June 2024. Jacksonville, FL. Doubletree Inn. Reservations 800-222-8733, group code ASA. POC Jim Garvin <James.Garvin@yahoo.com>.

76th Annual 1st Cavalry Division Association Reunion, 19-23 June 2024. Louisville, KY. Crowne Plaza Louisville Airport Expo Center. (866) 888-0620. Please DO NOT reserve more than one room.

C/2-8 CAV Reunion, 10-12 September 2024. Branson, MO. POC: Paul Braun: <paulbraun1949@gmail.com>. Further updates will follow in the *Saber*.

19th Annual 12th Cavalry Reunion, 11-14 September 2024. Branson, MO. Branson Hillside Hotel (formerly The Welk). Further details in the Feb 2024 News Bulletin.

77th Field Artillery Association Reunion, 11-15 September 2024. Branson, MO. POC: John Moran: <johnjanmoran@woh.rr.com> or 937-361-1333.

D/1-12th Reunion, Vietnam Veterans Memorial & Arlington National Cemetery, 12-15 September 2024. Washington D.C. Westin Washington Dulles Airport, Herdon, VA. (866) 932-7062. Booking Code DCB. Additional details <https://catrack.6india>.

Jumping Mustangs Reunion, 2-6 October 2024. Fort Wayne, Indiana. Holiday Inn Express, 5915 Ellison Rd, Fort Wayne. Reservations 260-459-1888. POC: James Knafel, <jjknafel@gmail.com> or 260-244-3864. When making reservation, specify Jumping Mustangs.

Have your upcoming reunions posted here!
Email to Programs@1CDA.org

AIR CAV NEWS



LTC (RET) J. Shawn Perry
191 Scenic Bluff Drive
Guntersville, Alabama 35976
(254) 458-0428
Stetsonlife1cda@gmail.com



Please contact the scribe to share your
AIR Cav stories to appear here!

Hello, Brothers and Sisters! As I write this, springtime is upon us and here in North Alabama, we are blessed with vibrant green trees and grasses blowing in the breeze and the smell of blooming flowers fills the air. Good stuff.

Surrounded by this beauty and as motorcycle riding season was getting started, I broke my wrist. And when I say broke, I mean broke bad. The fold-down attic ladder in my garage gave way while I was climbing it causing me to crash to the concrete floor, severely fracturing the end of the radius bone in my right arm, cracking into the socket of my wrist. 16 stitches, eight screws, and one metal plate later, my wrist is on the mend.

I share this with you because it reminds me of pre-fighting an aircraft. We all learn, over time, that we pre-flight three things on our helicopters.

- 1. What the -10 tells us to pre-flight.
- 2. What we have experienced issues with on past flights.
- 3. What we have heard OTHER people have experienced on past flights.

That third bullet is important because we cannot live long enough to experience it all ourselves. So, when it comes to this ladder, not only had I been maintaining it by lubricating hinges, springs, and other moving parts, but I also inspected and tightened the nuts and bolts when needed. What I did NOT inspect, however, was the wooden rails where the ladder connected into the hinges. What I ultimately experienced was a material failure when the wood on both sides of my ladder split, dropping me to the floor. In all honesty, it never crossed my mind to inspect the wood for cracks; I was focused on the mechanical pieces. I assure you; I will be pre-fighting my ladders for this in the future!

I shared photos of my broken ladder with a co-worker, and the next day he shot me back a picture he took of his attic ladder after inspecting it specifically for what I had described when wrong with mine. The picture of his ladder showed a growing crack in the same place where mine split. I reference you back to bullet #3 above.

What are some unusual or unique pre-flight discoveries you have made? Maybe you've found something on a post-flight inspection that caught you off guard. Email me your stories and I will share them here.

In other news, AAAA held its annual convention in April, highlighting technological advancements and recognizing the year's heroes. In researching the event, I discovered that I missed a very special award from the 2023 AAAA convention. In 2023, Company C, 2nd Battalion, 227th Aviation Regiment of the 1st Air Cavalry Brigade received the 2023 Army Aviation Air/Sea Rescue Award. According to the AAAA write up:

"C/2-227th Aviation was called on to conduct a complicated high altitude rescue attempt that no other assets were capable of in April of 2023. A fallen hiker, high in the mountains, was in desperate need of rescue and Company C answered the call. They launched four hoist capable Blackhawks, and over a period of almost 17 hours of flight time conducted 18 live hoists in the rescue of the injured hiker and a member of the rescue team injured in the process. The stranded patient found himself at an elevation of 8,000 feet MSL, clinging to a cliff face with a footing smaller than a 12-inch x 8-inch piece of paper. The challenges continued to mount as the rescue unfolded. His position made a direct hoist perilous due to the rotor downwash. Through coordinated efforts with the National Park, the Carlsbad Fire Department, Company C leaders, and two high-angle rope teams, a plan was devised to insert the rope teams above and below the patient allowing faster access and stabilization. The unwavering determination of the rescue teams and countless hours of effort and meticulous planning resulted in his being safely hoisted onto the aircraft, ultimately saving his life. The actions of C/2-227th embody their motto, "To Save a Life," and identify them as the recipient of the 2023 AAAA Air/Sea Rescue Award."

Congratulations and thank you, C Company, for a job well done!

Flying is a dangerous activity. We all know it to be true, and that we partake in it and work around it, makes us a special breed of person. I read once that the difference between wisdom and luck is that one is clever, and the other is clover.

Whether pre-fighting our aircraft or safely executing complex and dangerous missions, ours is a life which requires attention, focus, and commitment. Thank you all for what you do and what you have done in service to our great Nation. I look forward to hearing from you.

Clear right!
Your friend, Shawn

ARMY
BIRTHDAY

June 14, 1775



The U.S. Army was founded on June 14, 1775, when the Continental Congress authorized enlistment of riflemen to serve the United Colonies for one year. The 14 June date is when Congress adopted "the American continental army" after reaching a consensus position in The Committee of the Whole.

Are you Active Duty &
serving in 1st Cav?

you or your spouse may qualify for a
1st Cav Division Association

SCHOLARSHIP

REQUIREMENTS:

- Become a member of 1st Cav Div Assn @ 1CDA.org to become a LIFE MEMBER
- Must be currently assigned to the Division for the length of scholarship
CANNOT be on orders or ETS
- Letter of recommendation from Command Team for Active Duty / employer for spouses

Accepting applications
1 April - 1 Aug 2024

This Scholarship encompasses FALL 2024,
SPRING & SUMMER 2025 sessions

Email for further details
Memberships@1CDA.org

A CALL FOR HELP

Unit Associations are in Fear of Losing
Their Unit Legacy

With the majority of the 1st Cavalry Division Association active membership being Vietnam Era Troopers, the individual Unit Associations that fall under the 1CDA are in fear of their unit legacy dying out.

Most of the leadership in the Unit Associations are from the Vietnam Era. They are hoping to pass on the reins to younger generations.

If your unit has an association and you are not a member of it, please consider joining.

Also reach out and link in to your unit Scribe, their information is on the top of their column of this *Saber* newspaper.

Please step up.
These Associations need YOU!

- 7th CAV: www.us7thcavalry.com/
- 8th CAV: www.8Cavalry.com
- 12th CAV: www.12thCav.com
- 15 MED: www.15thMedBnAssociation.org



HONOR ROLL



Thank you for the generous donations from our following Troopers:

SP5 ADAMS, W. Howard \$100
PFC BERGGREN, Jerry \$50
IMO Ernest Cairns
BG (RET) BILO, William C. \$200
IHO The Soldiers that served in B Btry
1-77FA and SVC Btry 1-30 FA in 1970
SGT BLOOMBERG, Terry \$100
SP4 COPSON, Charles E.
MRS. GRINNELL, Kathrine \$500
IHO Thomas H. Grinnell who is on
Hospice Care for brain tumor
CPT HALL, Sanci \$50
SFC HASKINS, Clifton \$50
IMO SP-4 Kenneth C. Kraus
SSG HOGAN, Michael J. \$100
IMO Marybeth Hogan
SGT HOBSON, Leonard T. \$50
IMO Fallen Troopers
COL JUDGE, David J. \$100
IMO 3rd Platoon, Bravo 1/7 CAV 70-71

COL (RET) KALINSKI, George \$100
MARTIN FAMILY \$700
IMO Roger Martin
SP5 Mc LEAN, John \$80
CPT (RET) MULFORD, Peter \$80
IMO LT Steve Beals KIA Medevac
CPL SCHNEIDER, Ray F. \$100
IMO Craig Thomas Davis, Sr.



As of May 1, 2024

SGT SILVER, Royal \$175
E-5 SMITH, Gerald E. \$50
IHO All Cav Troopers
CW4 SOMMERS, Gerald C. \$100
IMO CW2 Marwin Johnson
MRS. STEWART \$50
IMO William E. Stewart
SP4 SWANSON, Kenneth S. \$50
SGT SZIDON, Marvin H. \$100
IHO Those KIA under the Cav sign
Heavy Boned (D 2/7)
CSM (RET) TIPPINS, Billy J. \$100
IMO CSM Troy G. Tippins
CPT VAN WINKLE, James C. \$100
SFC YOSHIDA, Michael \$100
IMO SP4 Robert Hamilton 501st Eng
SP5 ZENNIE, Donald J. \$100
IMO Don Thompson-Flight Commander
C-229th AHB 1969-1970

Editor Note: Honor Roll privileges do not include calendar donations nor Saber renewals.

IaDrang & Foundation are both a tax exempt 501(c)(3) non-profit organization in accordance with the IRS under section 501(c)(3), Charitable Organizations, Code Section 170.

WANT TO SEE YOUR NAME UNDER HONOR ROLL SECTION?

Honor Roll privileges are given to members who make a donation of \$50 or more to the Association, or scholarship donations to the IaDrang or the Foundation.

THANK YOU! to our members who graciously donate to YOUR Association!
We appreciate your generosity, we could not do it without our members!



THE DIRECTOR'S CHAIR
Continued from pg. 1

Member's names, addresses and information provided to PCI for the publication of the Oral History Project will be held confidential by PCI, except to the extent that they are utilized in, or in the preparation of, the Oral History Project and except as required by court order or law.

If you have any further questions about this project, call the Association @ (254) 547-6537 or send me an email <firstcav@lcca.org>. You can also go to our website <https://lcca.org>. A page was created to help answer any possible questions our members may have about the project.

Due to lower attendance at the last two Veterans Day events, we are changing a few things up. Instead of planning a dinner it will be more of a reception-like event with finger food in the hospitality room. The hospitality room will continue with beer, wine, and snacks. The cost will change to \$50 per attendee to help cover beer, wine, and finger food. Once our numbers begin to beef back up, we will go back to planning a dinner to close out the weekend.

As you read through the *Saber*, you will notice some ads have been removed and replaced with our new 1st Cav Vietnam, and Tribute t-shirts. The picture on the back of the Vietnam shirt is different but eye catching, and the Tribute shirt contains all the names of our Troopers lost during the Global War on Terror. The shirts come in short and long sleeves.

Additionally, I had a vehicle medallion made for those who would like to showcase their First Team Pride in something other than a sticker that wears with time. The medallion is a 3x2 inch metal Cav Patch that can be attached to vehicles or motorcycles.

We are looking forward to seeing everyone attending the reunion in June until then stay safe and healthy.

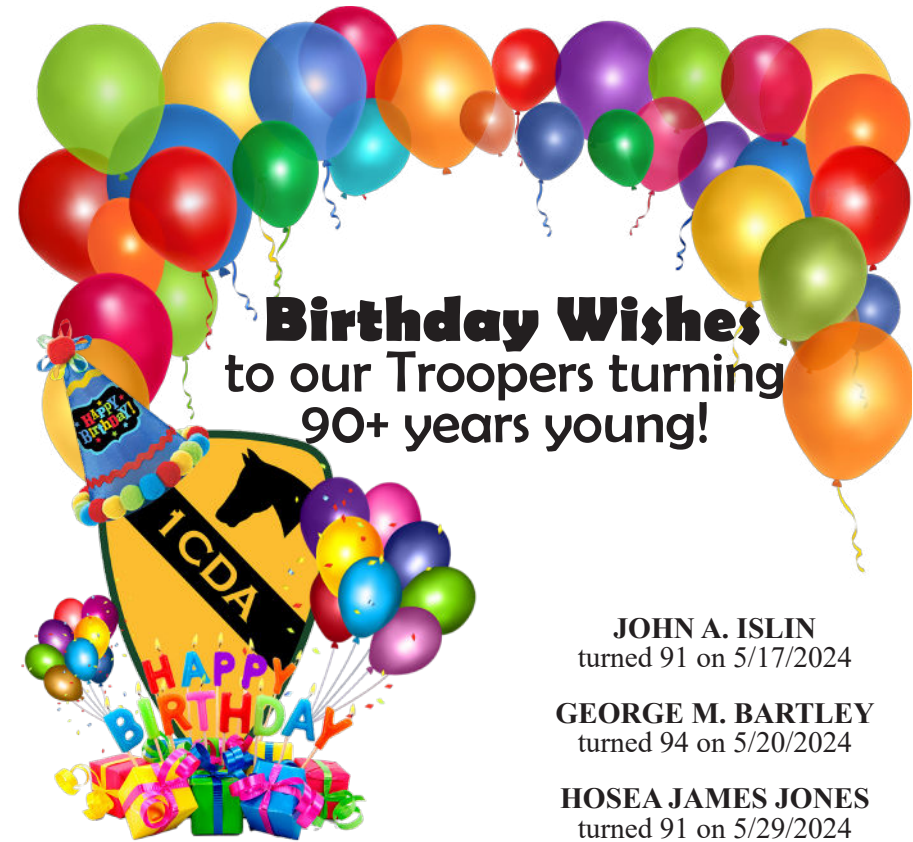
Parents and children. Spouses and partners.
Siblings, friends and battle buddies.
These are the fallen heroes we honor on
Memorial Day.

With each red poppy, we pay tribute to the
lives they led and their sacrifice
for our nation.

The red poppy is a symbol of remembrance
for the more than 600,000 Americans who
have died in the line of military service since
World War I.

On Memorial Day, USAA invites you to join
the nation in remembering and honoring
the lives of those who made the ultimate
sacrifice on our behalf.

www.usaa.com/memorialday



JIMMY F. CAPSHAW SR.
turned 93 on 5/2/2024

BENJAMIN JACKSON
turned 95 on 5/2/2024

BRUNO J. CHIESA
turned 90 on 5/6/2024

HOMER M. GARZA
turned 91 on 5/8/2024

JIMMIE L. JEFFERSON
turned 93 on 5/15/2024

LEON S. WOZNAK
turned 93 on 5/15/2024

JOHN A. ISLIN
turned 91 on 5/17/2024

GEORGE M. BARTLEY
turned 94 on 5/20/2024

HOSEA JAMES JONES
turned 91 on 5/29/2024

WALTER L. MC INTOSH
turned 94 on 5/29/2024

JOHN J. SWEENEY
turned 97 on 6/1/2024

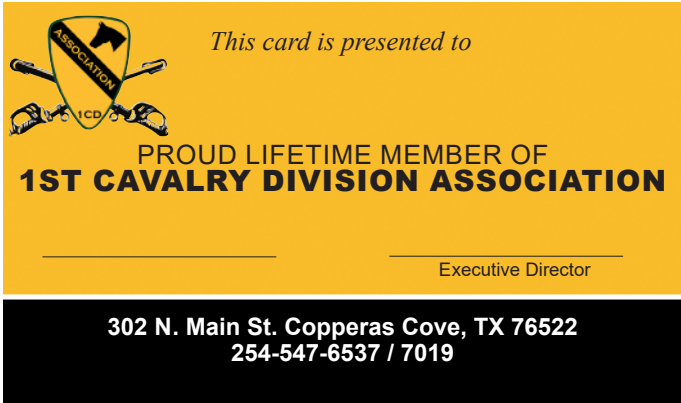
HERMAN C. BLISS
turned 94 on 6/3/2024

JOSEPH T. DAVERSA
turned 91 on 6/6/2024

KARL ROBERT OPPERMAN
turned 90 on 6/21/2024

JUAN JOSE
turned 90 on 6/26/2024

Replacement Membership Cards



We have revamped the Lifetime Membership cards! If you would like to order one, please fill out the order form below. Due to spacing issues, we are going to type in your name as it appears in our database. There is no space for your rank.

The new cards are NOT available for Associate Members, the new cards are only available for our Life Time Members. On the back of the card it says: 1st Cavalry Division Association is a non-political, non-profit 501(c)19 fraternity for Soldiers and Veterans currently serving or have served in 1st Cavalry Division. The Association is a group of Soldiers and former Soldiers from Private to 4-star Generals who share a bond of service with the FIRST TEAM who are dedicated to supporting the Division and each other.

1CDA Membership Cards

Total Due: \$5.00 each

Cash: _____ Check: _____

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Phone #: _____

Address: _____

Mail to: 1st Cavalry Division Association
302 N. Main St. Copperas Cove, TX 76522

The Longest Month has been awarded the AWARD OF MERIT winner in the Accolade Global Film Competition, the GOLD REMI AWARD at the Worldfest-Houston International Film Festival, and the BEST DOCUMENTARY FEATURE & BEST DOMESTIC FEATURE in the Fort Worth Indie Film Showcase.

1ST AIR CAV BRIGADE
AWARD WINNING

DOCUMENTARY: *THE LONGEST MONTH*



"The Longest Month" is a documentary film dedicated to telling the story of the 1st Air Cavalry Brigade Soldiers that participated in the events during "The Surge" in OIF 06-08. Some of these interviews took place at the 1CDA Headquarters in 2019. The Longest Month is an unscripted documentary, covering events that took place in Iraq during February of 2007 at the beginning of what is commonly known as "The Surge." This documentary examines the actions undertaken by members of the 1st and 4th Battalions, 227th Aviation Regiment, 1st Air Cavalry Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, as described by the Soldiers involved in these events. More helicopters were shot down in Iraq during this time period than any time since the Vietnam War. The Longest Month chronicles four events that exemplify the challenges faced by these individuals to not only complete their missions but survive the unprecedented 15-month deployment. Produced by: Dan McClinton and Directed and Edited by: Kenn Christenson If you wish to read the story behind this documentary: <<https://www.hollywoodintoto.com/longest-month-movie-us-veterans/>>

1ST AIR CAV BRIGADE DOCUMENTARY
THE LONGEST MONTH

\$26 ALSO AVAILABLE ON
DVD & BLU RAY

131-minutes: includes promotional trailers & additional scenes

CIRCLE DVD or Blu Ray Quantity: _____ Amount Due: \$ _____

Form of Payment:

☐ Cash ☐ Check Enclosed ☐ Credit Card (Service Charges Apply)

Credit Card # _____

Exp Date: _____ CVV on back: _____

Name on Card: _____

Signature: _____

Phone #: _____

Address: _____

Mail to: 1st Cavalry Division Association
302 N. Main St.
Copperas Cove, TX 76522

SHIPPING
IS FREE