



# ON THE RIGHT TRACK

1ST BATTALION 50TH INFANTRY MECHANIZED



## Countdown 2 Reunion

### Mission Statement

*The mission of the Association is to publish a newsletter and to maintain an internet web-site.*

*The Association will use these venues to inform its members of upcoming Association events and current or proposed legislation relative to Veterans Affairs.*

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Merry Christmas & Happy New Year  
From the newsletter staff

### The truth behind the story of

# AGENT ORANGE

Even though the Vietnam War ended, it continues to rage in the hearts, the minds, and the bodies of many veterans. One reason is an herbicide called, "Agent Orange". A few years after the end of the conflict, veterans began to develop certain health problems. Eventually, a possible link was made between the veterans, their medical conditions and exposure to Agent Orange.

Agent Orange (named after the orange-stripped barrels in which it was shipped) was one of several chemicals used to kill vegetation that provided cover for our enemy. In 1971, it was discovered that the herbicide contained dioxin, an unwanted chemical-by-product created during the manufacturing process. The type of dioxin in Agent Orange is thought to be harmful to humans. In 1978, the Department of Veterans Affairs began the Agent Orange Registry Examination Program. The registry is an attempt to identify and record information about veterans who served in Vietnam. The data gathered is used to study health trends among the group.

"The registry exam does not mean a veteran is automatically entitled to benefits," cautions Dr. Mather, Chief Public Health and Environmental Hazards Officer for the VA, "but the data gathered may be used in filing for benefits." To date, approximately 10 percent of those who served in Vietnam have registered.

**FROM THE EDITOR**



**KENNETH G. RILEY**

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*ichiban@blazenet.net*

Each VA medical center has an Agent Orange coordinator to assist veterans with registering and filing for benefits. The coordinator serves as the veteran's point-of-contact at the medical center for Agent Orange issues. The coordinator can schedule the exam and help the veteran pull together the documentation needed to apply for benefits. The coordinators are also up-to-date on information regarding Agent Orange research and benefits.

Currently, VA offers priority medical care to veterans with health problems that may have resulted from Agent Orange exposure and recognizes ten diseases as being service-connected. Contact your local VA Office for additional information on those listed diseases.

"The Agent Orange issue is not a closed book," says Dr. Mather. Research continues into other possible health effects of exposure to the herbicide. If you are concerned of a possible exposure to Agent Orange, contact the Agent Orange coordinator at your nearest VA medical center. You can also find a listing of the coordinators on the Web Site at: <http://www.va-stars-and-stripes.com>

*Continued on page 2*

## Lest We Forget

This article is being reprinted from another Veterans source.

"I saw you writing something," a man said as he approached me after a showing of the documentary, *Return with Honor*. "I hope," he continued, "you include that only 24 people showed up to see this film!"

*Return with Honor* is 102 minutes of memoirs of several captured pilots imprisoned in North Vietnam during the Vietnam Conflict. In *Return with Honor*, POW remembrances are juxtaposed against Hanoi's archival footage of their captures and interrogations. Frame after frame cross the screen. The film bears witness of the will of the American flyers to survive their captors treachery and to return to the families and country they loved. Most were locked away for years at the notorious Hoa Lo Prison, forever dubbed "The Hanoi Hilton." Today, the prison is deserted. Yet it remains literally a city block of 13 foot stone walls, broken glass bottles embedded in them, topped off with high-tension wire. The now empty cells were then infested with rats; in each tiny cell was a one-bed board with concrete supports, while rusted leg irons protruded from the crumbling cement walls.

The pilot who suffered the longest at the Hanoi Hilton was Ev Alvarez, who holds the distinction of being the first airman shot down by the NVA on August 4, 1964. As the first, Alvarez today feels that neither he nor his captors knew what to make of the situation in the beginning. "In the initial days, it was an experience to me and for them. I don't believe they really knew what to do. They asked us why we didn't answer their questions. And I would tell them that I was a POW and according to the Geneva Convention, I am not supposed to. But they would tell me, you are not a POW cause this was not a war."

Said 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Leroy Stutz, "I was the toughest fighter pilot in the world: John Wayne and Superman all rolled into one. I found out real fast how weak I really was. The pain may have cleansed me. But it hurt when my shoulders rotated in their sockets and I was hanging there. I bled. I prayed. I screamed and when I screamed, all they did was stuff a dirty old rag in my mouth. The thing that affected me most was thinking, God I don't want to die here, nobody would ever know."

"We were tortured to give them something," said Jeremiah Denton, "But we didn't give them anything. We made them torture us again. We gave them as little as we could each time. The idea was to *return with honor*."

To the Vietnamese, the POW's were an extension of the anti-war movement. The Vietnamese people knew they could not compete on the battlefield. When the American people got the idea of what this war was about, they lost interest. They withstood attempts at coercion by developing a survivor's mentality accompanied by a code that included tapping on walls and blinking Morse Code with their eyelids before the world's press when they knew footage would be aired at home.

According to the filmmakers, it was Ho Chi Minh's intention to brutalize the pilots. After his death in 1969, the POW's treatment improved. But it was not enough to make up for what they endured and still live to this day. Hopefully, more than 24 people will never forget that!

## PROMISES

Someone once said that as we age, three things begin to fail. The first is memory, yet no one seems to remember what the other two are. Indeed, some of life's events may be simply too painful to remember and we subconsciously suppress them. Still, remembering is an essential part of living, and for Americans, it is part of our heritage. Remembering who we are, where we came from, how we arrived at this point in our history is worthy of reflection. After all, we are Americans and, as a community of veterans, we share in the responsibility to remember and to remind those who may have forgotten, that freedom is not "free". The cost is measured, not only in terms of lives lost and sacrifices made, but also in terms of commitment by millions of men and women who have worn this nation's uniform in defense of our way of life. For us, remembering is a celebration honoring those Americans who have answered their nation's call. I think we would agree that freedom's costs have not been too great for the value received.

Nevertheless, at a time in our history when Americans are enjoying unprecedented prosperity; where employment opportunities seem plentiful; and where the threat of international conflict is relatively low, too many of our citizens seem to have forgotten how we, as a nation, arrived at this point. They take freedom for granted. Within our military, personnel recruiting is down, retention is down; force readiness has significantly declined. Many men and women in uniform qualify for food stamps, while serving in defense of their country. In less than a decade, we seemingly have dismantled our national defense posture to the point where the risk of conflict could once again evolve. Within the veteran community we have watched as a "grateful nation", through the actions or inaction of our elected officials, has failed to provide the health care and benefits promised to those who served. We remember the promises. Now, we need to continue to remind our congressmen and senators that they have a sacred obligation to honor those commitments.

# SEE YOU IN LAS VEGAS

*Continued on page 3*



# Reunion Update



Herb Randall (original CO of Charlie Company 1/50<sup>th</sup>) and I diligently (well, at least Herb did) worked on setting up a luncheon and tour of Nellis Air Force Base for Tuesday, 13 March 2001. I just received word from Herb that the base contacted him to cancel our little trip. We are still hoping it comes alive again. We had a luncheon at the Officer's Club planned, a tour of the base, and a tour of the "Thunderbirds", the air force precision flight team, hangar and museum, with the possibility that the group would be at the base when we arrived. We will continue to pressure them into the tour. Herb was also trying to set up a little "surprise" while we were at the base, so I am not sure that will happen now, either.

At this time, the Sunday Dinner and Social Meeting arrangements are being settled, and I will present the costs shortly. Please be aware that the Dinner will start promptly at 7:00 P. M. on Sunday, so plan your travel time accordingly. Monday evening, the dinner and social gathering will be held at a local VFW. I am told we will be pleased with the presentation they have worked up for us. Can't say anymore, I don't want to give up any surprises. For those who arrive early Sunday, the room number of our Hospitality Room will be posted in the lobby of the hotel. Please drop by as soon as you are situated and sign our Guest Book, register for the reunion, and have a bit of refreshment.

To help you relive the "old days", one night's meal will consist of the hotel's buffet (which is very nice-I have already sampled it), although we will not gather within the restaurant as a group. For those who have never participated in such a momentous occasion, each person will stand in the "chow line" just as we did thirty plus years ago. In mid-

February, I will send out a short flyer to all of you detailing the costs of all meals. Cost of the meals should be paid at the reunion desk when you arrive, so please do not send any money at this time.

Included within this newsletter is a form to be used to indicate your desire of one of the five trips listed in our reunion brochure. Please see the brochure for all details. To make these trips possible, I need those who have interest in them, to mark which ones they want, and the amount of people who will be attending the trip, then return this form to me by 20 February, so I may schedule the tour. Do not send any money for the tours; that will be collected as you sign up for the reunion on Sunday, 11 March 2001.

Most of the guys will be bringing their "women folk" along, so I hope to set up a trip for just the ladies, while us "grunts" exaggerate our war stories a bit, LOL. We do not do that, do we? Just remember, we will be in Las Vegas ... if anyone gets bored, something is wrong! Once I have all the details in place, a short newsletter will be forthcoming with all the details I can find on dinners, shows, attractions, and so forth. Watch your mail. This information will also be posted on the web site as soon as it is compiled.

Reunion Registration	
At this time, the following members have registered for the Reunion:	
DATE	NAME
1. 06/15/00	KENNETH G RILEY
2. 07/11/00	HOWARD W FLIPPEN
3. 07/12/00	JOE S TORRES
4. 07/13/00	JAMES LEEDWARDS
5. 07/14/00	ROBERT J GOLD
6. 07/17/00	JOHN RHATIGAN
7. 07/17/00	ROBERT A BURCH
8. 07/18/00	GLADYS A GRUBB
9. 07/19/00	H. ALLMENDINGER
10. 08/02/00	JON M THELEN
11. 08/14/00	TOBY HAMON
12. 08/14/00	JAMES WOODALL
13. 08/21/00	JOHN TOPPER
14. 08/28/00	WALTER BILLUPS
15. 08/29/00	HERBERT RANDALL
16. 09/15/00	R. PROVENCHER
17. 09/30/00	ELIOTT DRESHER
18. 10/23/00	VILNIS GAILITIS
19. 10/23/00	TOM KNEPP
20. 10/25/00	OTIS D. PONOS, JR.
21. 11/01/00	TOBY JORDAN
22. 11/12/00	RANDOLPH SMITH
23. 11/18/00	PAUL W. EHRlich



# Activities for Reunion

**REMEMBER:** To make the trips available, we need a minimum of fifteen (15) persons each.

Trips will be scheduled for Wednesday morning, 14 March 2001. Reservations must be in to me by: 20 February 2001, so I can set up trip. Please indicate your first choice by the Number One (1). Indicate a second choice (Number 2) in case we do not get a good enough response to book the tour. DO NOT send money with this form. Return this form by 20 February 2001. Cost is payable on Sunday, at the 1/50th reunion reception desk. Check the one(s) you are interested in.



For online versions of the newsletter

1. Hoover Dam
2. Lake Meade
3. Colorado River Rafting
4. Shopping in Primm
5. Red Rock Canyon



\_\_\_\_\_ Tour # 1:

Hoover Dam mini trip: Trip leaves at 8:00 A.M. from the hotel parking lot. Cost is \$23.95 per person, which includes the bus ride to and back, a walking tour of the dam, and of the inside workings of the dam and power plant. We will stop at a Chocolate Factory and Botanical Gardens on the return to Las Vegas. Approx. 5.5 hours duration.

Number Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Tour # 2:

Lake Meade Boat Cruise: An all day tour of Lake Meade, including a 90-minute boat cruise around a portion of the lake. A buffet luncheon is included, plus a stopover at Hoover Dam, with a walking tour of the inside workings of the dam and power plant. Cost is \$46.95 per person.

Number Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Tour #3:

An all-day trip to include a slow river raft trip on the Colorado River, starting at the base of the Hoover Dam (thank God it's not from the top, huh?) for about eleven miles with a picnic lunch stop-over. On the return, we will stop at the Chocolate Factory. Cost is \$79.95 per person.

Number Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Tour #4:

A six-hour shopping trip to Primm, Nevada. What else can be said! Cost is \$19.95 per person.

Number Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Tour # 5:

Come along on a 4.5-hour drive to and through the Red Rock Canyon, with a stop at the museum and visitor's center. Cost is \$39.95 per person.

Number Attending \_\_\_\_\_

100 Things to do in Las Vegas


Official Cab Drivers Guide to Las Vegas

Las Vegas Show Biz

Las Vegas Sun - Local Newspaper



*Continued on page 5*


**FROM THE  
CHAPLAIN**

Hello to everyone! It is my hope an prayer that each and every one of you is in good health. Although Thanksgiving is a few weeks away at the time of this writing, by the time you receive this, Christmas will be upon us and what a joyous time of the year it is. Christmas is the time of the year when we should stop and count our many blessings and be ever so thankful for all that we have.

I've just finished a brief not to Mick Hawkins, telling him of a good friend we both lost a long time ago. The date to be exact was May 5, 1968. In telling Mick some of the details of that terrible loss, it brought back a lot of memories some good, and some bad. One such memory was a past note from myself in a newsletter shortly after I became your Association Chaplain. In it I made a statement that the same God that was with us in Vietnam is the same God that is with us now, and how true that is and how comforting that is. I guess I better close for now because this is supposed to be brief, so may God be with each of you.

See you in Las Vegas.

*Therefore the Lord himself  
will give you a sign. Behold,  
a young woman shall conceive  
and bear a son, and shall call his  
name Immanuel. . . .Isaiah 7:14*



*He shall be called  
the Prince of  
Peace*

Christmas  
Blessings.

Toby Jordan & Family

*In Memory of  
Kenneth Troutman*

It is with sadness that I inform you of the death of Kenneth Troutman on Sunday, 19 November 2000. Ken was squad leader on APC#313.

I had spoken to him in September and he sounded fine and was even thinking of attending reunion.

Ken was a letter carrier for the U.S. Postal Service. He leaves his wife of 29 years, Kathleen Coughlin Troutman and their two daughters, Traci and Amy. Donations may be made in his honor to:  
St. Mary's Education Fund  
25 Center Street  
Waterloo, NY 13165

I know this is redundant, but I must say it again - if you have a loved one, a friend, or an army buddy don't wait until it's too late to drop a line or place a call just to say "Hi", to chat with them or to visit with them. You may find that you won't get the chance if you wait.


**BROTHER  
BIOS**

The following list picks up with those men found that have not been previously listed in the "Bio" pages. Our list keeps getting longer, thanks to several men who continue to look for, and find, our missing members of the battalion.

**Avary, Cal:** Cal originally was with 1/50<sup>th</sup> on its voyage across the seas. He was in HQ Company until his departure from the country in August of 1968. Cal now calls Texas home and has been active in the Association helping with the Directory and supplying mailing labels.

**Borgess, George:** George served with Delta Company, 1/50<sup>th</sup> Infantry, arriving in country with the unit from Fort Hood. He now parks his feet in New York State.

**Borges, George A.:** George came over with Delta Co. on the boat. He spent his year in country, and returned to the states. He was a unit mechanic and resides in New York state.

**Boyles, Michael:** Michael was with the Flame Platoon from September 1967 until September of 1968. For twenty years after leaving country, Michael raced dragsters. He resides in New Jersey at this time.

**Brashears, Glenn:** Glenn was with the 1/50<sup>th</sup> Infantry during 1967-1968. He now makes Arkansas his home. No further information available at this time.

**Brammer, James:** Jim currently resides in Michigan. No further information available at this time.

**Branam, Jack:** No info at present.

**Breseman, Wilber:** Wilber served with Bravo company from August 1968 until May 1969. He returned to Michigan where he farms. His son joined the National Guard, and ironically, served his basic and AIT at Fort Benning. You guessed it, with the 1/50<sup>th</sup> Training regiment.

**Cain, Talmage:** Talmage was in the unit during 1968, He currently lives in Alabama. No further information available.

**Clark, Robert:** Robert was an engineer assigned to 1/50<sup>th</sup> Infantry during 1970 and part of 1971. Returning stateside, he went to Germany and other assignments, retiring in 1989. Robert currently lives in Kentucky.

**Crapo, Robert:** Robert lives in New Hampshire.

**Curtis, Lawrence:** No info at present.

**Davies, Martin:** Martin returned to the country from our battalion and resides now in Oregon.

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THOUGHTS  
FROM  
"CAP'N G"



Dick Guthrie

I think we'd all agree that our recent presidential elections make a strong case for the importance of voting. I'd hope that every American who did not vote this time around will resolve to never allow himself that kind of laziness again. There is so much at stake that having our Veterans' Voices heard is more important than it ever was. Each of us owes it to future generations to remain as involved as we can in the running of our country. There is also unfinished business in making sure absentee ballots never again get treated with the disrespect they seem to have been getting for years. This issue will get swept under the rug again if each of us does not hold our elected representatives' feet to the fire. We have passed the burden of serving far from home to another generation, but we owe it to those now on active duty to help make sure *their* voices are heard.

We're bearing down on the reunion, and Ken needs an accurate headcount. He'll also appreciate volunteer help with a number of the usual functions. I hope many will chip in and lighten the load. Ken has publicized the reunion in a number of national level magazines and websites. There may be state level publications that can reach potential members of our organization as well. If you know of any, don't fail to notify Ken Riley.

We need to keep this newsletter as a viable tool for bringing our group together and giving our members a place to share ideas. At the same time, we owe it to Ken Riley to pick up some of the slack and allow him to have some time to himself. I hope anyone with experience in journalism or just an interest in participating will step forward and volunteer for at least a piece of it.

At the reunion I will be giving a short rundown of how I see the "Return to Binh Dinh" trip taking place. We are planning the trip during the Oct 20 to Nov 2 time frame. At present I have indications that 22 of us veterans, friends and family members are interested in going back. That would certainly be a great group. We can take as many as are interested.

The next O.R.P. (Objective Rally Point) is Harrah's, Las Vegas. We'll be looking for you there. Until then, stay off the skyline and remember to change socks every day.

To indicate your interest in returning to the old AO, or willingness in helping edit and produce the newsletter, contact me.

**Email:** RPGUT3@aol.com  
**Home Phone:** (831) 646-8217  
**Fax:** (831) 333-9726  
**Snail Mail:**  
 Richard P. Guthrie  
 1059 Wrangler's Trail  
 Pebbie Beach, CA 93953



Return To  
*Binh Dinh*

Please complete this form & send to Dick Guthrie

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NAME

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ADDRESS

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CITY STATE ZIP

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PHONE

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FAX

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EMAIL

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NUMBER IN GROUP

*Continued on page 7*

From the desk of  
Association Historian  
Jim Sheppard

To be sure, this past quarter has been my busiest as your Historian. I am happy to report that Ray Sarlin has accomplished much in the documentation of our Regimental History, as well as complimenting a growing Database of our Battalion's men who were killed in action. My thanks to Ray for his assistance!!

As a direct result of Ray's assistance in the Unit Lineage, I have been free to obtain quite a few new documents from the National Archives at College Park, Maryland. Just today I have finished scanning all of my complete documents including After Action Reports, Daily Staff Journals, Quarterly "Histories", etc. In all, I have scanned 1,261 pages! The Microsoft Access Database of the entire collection is available to any interested member. I will also mail a brief descriptive listing to anyone who does not possess one of the confounded computers.

I plan to have 2 large file cases full of "hard copy" documents at the reunion. I also will have Compact Disks (CDs) available for sale complete with Battalion & Infantry logos containing copies of all of our documents in Adobe Acrobat Format\*. (These will be available at a very reasonable price with a small profit going to our treasury). I have already sent some samplings of these efforts to several of you and have gotten great feedback. I shall include on each disk the Acrobat Reader which will allow you to read as well as print all documentation from your personal computer.

I shall be visiting the National Archives on a regular basis. Anyone who has a specific time frame of interest should feel free to inquire about obtaining copies of documentation.

Looking forward to seeing everyone in March!

\*see "Surfing the Net for Vets" for a link to download Acrobat Reader



## Surfing the Net for Vets

By: *The Dixie Chicken*

Visit the selections below and let us know what you think, and don't forget to share any great sites that you find.

### Adobe Acrobat

<http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep.html>

To download Acrobat Reader for reading 1/50 files that you'll find available through our association. Thanks to Jim Sheppard for contributing this link.

### Children of Vietnam Veterans

<http://www.geocities.com/Pentagon/9125/>

Did you ever wonder how your Vietnam experience affected your children? Visit Children of Vietnam Veterans and gain insight into their thoughts & feelings.

### United States Army

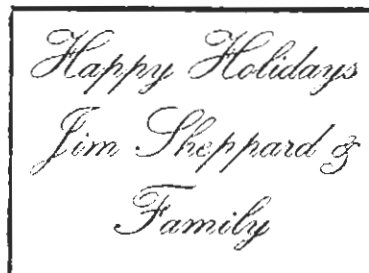
[Http://www.army.mil](http://www.army.mil)

Website of the United States Army. The Army Newswatch for the latest in Pentagon Information is available from their homepage. However, the site index boasts a wealth of information to guide you to any possible interest you may have.

### Stolen Valor: How the Vietnam Generation Was Robbed of its Heroes and History: Quick Guide to Obtaining Military Records

<http://live.looksmart.com/cgi-bin/framer?http://www.stolenvalor.com/foia.HTM>

A well written article about how to obtain military records. Step by step details in an easy to understand format.



Davidson, Michael: Michael is currently a Lieutenant with the 1/0<sup>th</sup> Infantry, stationed in Fort Benning Georgia. One of his many duties he performs there is as active historian for the unit.

Dischinger, Eugene: No info at present.

Douglas, Larry: No info at present.

Dulany, Joseph: Joe was battalion Chaplain during the period September 1967 to April 1968. He remembers LZ Uplift very well. He currently resides in Delaware.

Edge, James: James was with the battalion during 1968. He occasionally trades dollar bills for chips in his home town of Las Vegas Nevada.

Ehrlich, Paul: Paul served with Alpha Company from may of 1968 until May of 1969. Paul resides in Massachusetts.

Epperson, Gary: Gary was with Alpha Company when the battalion arrived in country and remained there until July of 1968. He now works with a utility Company as an Inspector. He and his wife, Nancy, have two children and two grand children. They reside in Missouri.

Fain, Michael: No info at present.

Filson, James: Jim is living in Illinois.

Fischer, Edward: No info at present.

Flakne, Larry: Larry hails from Missouri.

Gage, Aaron: No info at present.

Gailitis, Vilnis: Vilnis served in the battalion motor office during the period, August 1968 until August of 1969. He also served with MACV during the year 1964. Vilnis currently resides in Washington State.

Garland, David: No info at present.

Gebhart, Sam: No info at present.

Gerber, John: John served with the battalion in Vietnam. He lives in Pennsylvania. No further information available at this time.

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Glbreath, Walter: Walter resides in Indiana.

Graham, James S: No info at present.  
Green, Eric: No info at present.

Gregg, Maurice: Maurice is almost a neighbor to me, residing in the great state of Maryland.

Groeble, William:

Hagardt, Bernhard: Bernhard served with Alpha Company, from August 1969 until September 1970.

Hajec, Walter:

Hanley, W Earl: no information available at this time.

Hamon, Toby: Toby served with Charlie Company as a squad leader from September 1967 until September 1968. He returned to Texas and began working for a car dealership. He now is President of it! He and his wife, Sallie, reside in Texas, where Toby enjoys quail hunting in his spare time.

Hannan, Mark: Mark arrived with Delta Company in January of 1969, leaving there in September of that year. He resides in Oregon.

Harris, Larry: Larry was with Alpha Company from September of 1968 until September 1969. David Payne was his driver. He and his wife Wanda now call Missouri their home.

Hawkins, Harley: Harley served with Delta Company from September 1967 until August 1968 a board APC # 424. Harley and his wife Carolyn now park their feet in Missouri. He likes to hunt duck in his spare time.

Hollenbeck, Neil: Neil currently keeps company with the polar bears in warm, sunny Alaska.

Hooker, Richard "Dick": Dick was battalion Commander for the unit from May of 1970 and helped bring the colors back to the U.S.A. in December 1970. Dick currently lives in Maryland.

Hurley, Timothy: Tim served with the 1/41st Regiment in Fort Hood Texas and

became close friends with many of the guys who transferred over to the 1/50th from there. Tim was in Vietnam with the 101st airborne Division. Tim now resides in Wisconsin.

Hutt, Thomas: Tom

Irvin, Roger: Roger resides in Ohio.

Jackson, Climmos:

Jameson, Charles: Charlie was with Delta company in 1967 and 1968. He then transferred to HHQ Company. He was part of the group who transferred over from 2/1 Cavalry at Fort Hood into the 1/50th Infantry. Charlie now resides in Alabama.

Kamphouse, William: Bill began his duty in Vietnam with Bravo Company. Don Queen was the driver of his APC. He arrived in country in November 1967 and stuck around for a year. He returned home to Washington State, married, and has four children. He works in the contracting business.

Kendrick, Dennis: Dennis served his time with Alpha Company, from our arrival in country until September of 1968. He and his wife, Dawn, have three children and live in Iowa, where Dennis works as a fire fighter.

Kinard, Walter: Walter lives in Georgia.

Laier, Dennis: No info at present.

Landry, Walt: No info at present.

Lantz, Veryl: Veryl lives near Fort Hood, Texas.

Lemley, Stephen D: No info at present.

Lewis, Ralph: No info at present.

Lynch, David W: David was with Bravo Company from August 1968 until November 1970. He loved it so much there, he just kept "re-upping" to stay with his friends. David and his wife Denise reside in Oregon.

Mardis, John:

McCracken, Wayne D: "Pete" was with Bravo Company and APC # 213. Don Queen was his driver. He and his wife,

Pam have four children and six grandchildren. He retired from GM with 30 years of service to them. He is an antique car buff. Pam and "Pete" now reside in Missouri.

Melendez, Robert: Robert served with Delta and Alpha Company from December of 1967 until the following December. He now resides in Texas.

Messinger, Carl L: Carl resides in Arizona.

Micka, John: No info at present.

Miller, Gerald J: Gerald first arrived in country with Delta Company around December of 1967. He left one year later and is now living in North Dakota with his wife, Nancy and their three children.

Mims, Billy L Jr: Billy was with Charlie Company as driver of C-23, from July 1969 until July 1970. Billy now resides in New York.

Moody, Jerry: No info at present.

Moore, William: Bill Shipped out with the unit from Fort Hood Texas, with Bravo Company. He currently lives in Oregon.

Nelson, Keith: No info at present.

Nichols, John: John was with the 1/50th in Fort Hood and went via luxury liner, USNS John Pope. He left country in June of 1968 and now resides in California.

O'Brien, Glenn: Glenn served in Bravo Company from 1974 to 1977, with the unit in Fort Hood Texas and in Germany. He resides now in Arkansas.

Odom, Daniel: Dan served as a medic with Bravo and Delta Companies from February 1968 until going home in early 1969. He now lives in Georgia.

Oliphant, Steve: No info at present.

Ordaz, Rigoberto: No info at present.



## First Battalion Fiftieth Infantry (Mechanized) Association Membership Forms

A Ten (\$10.00) dollar donation is requested. This represents dues for one year. For those not currently paid for the year 2000, please remit your dues using one of the two forms below. Our annual dues are necessary to publish the newsletter and organize bi-annual reunions. Without these funds our treasury depletes rapidly. Please commit to sending your dues today.

### ANNUAL DUES FORM (PLEASE PRINT)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ BIRTHDATE: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

UNIT: (Co., Platoon, Squad) \_\_\_\_\_ APC (Track) #: \_\_\_\_\_

SERVICE IN VIETNAM Arrival date \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ Departure date \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

HOME ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

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

PHONE:(\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ FAX:(\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

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### LIFE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION (PLEASE PRINT)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ BIRTHDATE: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

UNIT: (Co., Platoon, Squad) \_\_\_\_\_ APC (Track) #: \_\_\_\_\_

SERVICE IN VIETNAM Arrival date \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ Departure date \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

HOME ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

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

PHONE:(\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ FAX:(\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

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SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

# 1ST BATTALION 50TH INFANTRY MECHANIZED

**Kenneth G. Riley**  
Editor in Chief  
1st BTN 50th Infantry Mechanized  
200 Georgetown Ct.  
Hanover, PA 17331



**Ponds, Otis:** Otis was with Charlie Company from May of 1968 until May of 1969. He now resides in Georgia.

**Provencher, Ronald:** Ron served as a medic with the unit during the period September 1967 until August 1968. Ron now calls New Hampshire his home.

**Rath, Kenneth:** Ken took AIT with 1/50<sup>th</sup> in 1966. No further information is available at this time.

**Rockvam, Jon:** Jon served with Alpha Company from August 1970 until January 1971, on its return to the states. John and his wife Debbie now hold onto their home in "shaky": California.

**Rogers, Randall:** Randall took basic with 1/50<sup>th</sup> Infantry from August 1966 until January 1967, but was called home on a medical emergency prior to our unit going overseas. When he returned, he was assigned to 2/11 Cav in Vietnam. He resides in Illinois and would like to hear from those who knew him.

**Schilling, Larry:** Larry was an original "Play the Game" fan as we arrived by boat in Vietnam. He served with Alpha Company until departing the country in August of 1968. He currently lives in Iowa.

**Scott, Daniel L.:** Crossed the ocean with us in Delta Co. He remained until June, 1968 when he returned home. Dan and his wife, Sherry live in Missouri.

**Scott, James:** No info at present.

**Sculley, James:** Jim served with Alpha Company from July of 1969 until July of 1970. He and his wife Cindy now reside in California. They have one son, Christopher. Jim works in the automobile industry.

**Shea, Daniel:** Dan was a 2nd Lieutenant with the 1/50<sup>th</sup> Infantry as it returned to Fort hood Texas. He is now a Retired

LTC and is interested in the history of the unit.

**Smith, Albert:** Albert was with Bravo Company on its faithful journey across the big blue ocean in September of 1967. Al stayed with the unit until October of 1968, returning home. He and his wife Lorine now reside in Ohio.

**Smith, Paul:** No info at present.

**Stamper, Darwin:** Darwin spent his time with Bravo Company from September 1969 until September 1970. He spent many years in the service and now resides in the country of Panama with his family.

**Torres, Joe:** Joe served with Charlie Company during 1968 and 1969, Riggs was the driver of his APC. He and his wife, Katherine reside in Texas.

**Tovar, Pedro "Pete":** Pete was a medic with Delta Company upon landing in Vietnam. He managed to stay with the unit until August of 1968. Pete and his wife Marie currently hang their holsters in Texas. Pete likes to play golf, so if we go to Myrtle Beach SC for our next reunion, all of you "swingers" bring your golf clubs along.

**Trout, Tom:** Tom left Fort Hood with the unit, calling Charlie Company his home until returning to Pennsylvania a year later. He now works for a major power company in the Pittsburgh area.

**Uchida, Alvin:** Hawaii.

**Urquieta, Isrel:** No info at present.

**Ussery, James D:** Jim served as a track mechanic in Alpha Company from June of 1969 until leaving country in June of 1970. Jim currently lives in Texas.

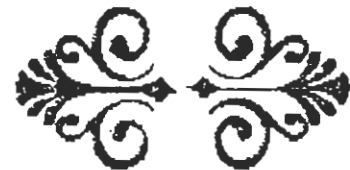
**Valadez, Roy:** Roy currently lives in Texas.

**West, Clarence:** Clarence served in Delta Company from May of 1968 until April 1969. He currently resides in Texas.

Let there be peace  
on earth  
And let it begin  
with me.

Blessings from,  
TNI Dixie Chicken

Dixie Chicken  
Quality Graphics



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