



# RUN FOR THE WALL

## Quarterly Newsletter

*“We Ride For Those Who Can’t”*

October 2011

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### THE EDITOR’S NOTES



Two things happened this month that are worthy of following closely. Both involve the military—one honors troops KIA and the other honors veterans.

The Marine Corps has been struggling recently with the issue of KIA bracelets. Marines have been increasingly wearing KIA bracelets to honor their fallen comrades. Most have been told to remove them because they were not considered approved jewelry under the Corps’ stringent rules. But the rule was not enforced uniformly; some looked the other way, while others forced the removal of the bracelets. The uproar from Marines of all ranks was extremely vocal.

When the issue became known to the general public, there was a huge outcry, with most saying Marines should be allowed to honor their fallen comrades by wearing the bracelets, that it is a way to help them grieve.

Recently Commandant Gen. Jim Amos visited Twentynine Palms to welcome home members of 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 4<sup>th</sup> Marines, from a seven-month deployment to Afghanistan’s northern Helmand province. Five members of the battalion died there. Amos noticed several of the marines wearing KIA bracelets. It apparently touched him, because on October 18 he announced that Marines in uniform are now authorized to wear so-called KIA bracelets recognizing friends who have fallen in combat or died from wounds sustained on the battlefield.

The second issue involves the “Stolen Valor Act” Which passed Congress with overwhelming support in 2006. The Act punishes those who make false claims of awards received for bravery in war.

The Supreme Court has agreed to hear the case. The 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit last year struck down the law on free speech grounds and said the government can’t act as the “truth police” to punish lies that cause no direct harm. My personal opinion is that it most certainly DOES cause harm. It diminishes the sacrifices of the many brave men and women who gave some or all for their country. I pray that our Supreme Court Justices agree.

Judy “Velcro” Lacey

*Freedom is never free. It is paid for with the blood of the brave.  
It is paid for with the tears of their loved ones. It is up to us to  
preserve and defend that which they have paid so dearly for.*

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## ► PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Hi Folks!

My wife Joanne and I had a great time and enjoyed the festivities at the Southern Route reunion in Kerrville, TX very much. Before that I attended the Central Route’s Angel Fire Reunion in Eagles Nest Central. I have been a Central Route rider for eleven years and always enjoy the reunions.

My impression in Texas was WOW. The folks that make up our organization “Run For The Wall” are awesome. We are one mission with two routes. Lots of fun and laughs are to be had any time our family gets together.

I am always impressed by the dedication and generosity of our people. The level of cooperation and selfless voluntarism that drives our runs is a tribute to all that participate in “Run For The Wall”.

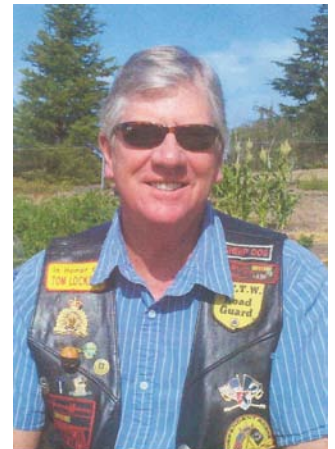
Our next board meeting will be in November. I will post that activity. Things are really getting on track for 2012. The Coordinators are nailing down our hotel lists, merchandise is being ordered and printed, Road Guard Captains are forming up their cadres, the DC Coordinator is working to set our schedule of activities there and Registration folks are in place and will be receiving their supplies soon. Things move along steadily this time of year with a lot of people working on our behalf. I want to THANK all of you for your participation.

I would like to encourage all of you to start thinking about the Run this year. Winter will be setting in soon for many of you so get out and ride! Practice keeping lane position. There may be a class in the Spring that you may be interested in. I will be taking another “Experienced Rider’s” course this Spring myself. Generally I find those courses fun. Good people and no written tests.

I am looking forward to the Run this year already. I am going to work as an Ambassador with my wife on the Central Route.

Drop me an email or call anytime. Thank you all for your support of “RFTW” and our deployed forces.

Sincerely,  
Ross Currie  
President, RFTW



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## ► FINANCIAL REPORT

From John “Hardcharger” Barker, RFTW BOD Treasurer

RFTW is in a great financial position this year. The BOD has set aside \$15,000 to donate to likeminded charities this year. To date we have given \$2,000 to the Arizona Stand down.

Another project that the BOD is considering is a request from one of our current active Duty Riders, Road name Sixshooter. He is an E-9 and is going to be in charge of a special unit being sent to Camp Leatherneck in Afghanistan in Feb. He has asked the BOD to sponsor his unit of approximately 50 Marines. What that means is that RFTW riders would send letters and care packages to them, we are also looking into a coin that the Commanding Officer could hand out for special awards. The coin would be the RFTW coin on one side and the Marine unit’s designation on the other. The reason I’m mentioning this is that Ray “Too Tall” McDowell and I are to get back to the BOD with ideas by February. So if any of our readers out there want to help out or have ideas, please send them to Ray or me.

As for the financial picture, a complete Financial Report will be ready for the next newsletter, but in the meantime, Run For The Wall currently has:

Checking account .....\$67,177  
Savings account.....\$31,526

It cost approx: \$75,000 Plus to put this year’s Run on. These funds come mainly merchandise and registration.

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## ► REUNION REPORTS

### ANGEL FIRE UNOFFICIAL CR REUNION

By Barbara “Happy Feet” Montoya

At 3 p.m. on Friday, the Meet & Greet had about 35 people in attendance. Lots of good hors d’oeuvres, catered by Calamity Jane’s of Eagle Nest. Clearly people were happy to see one another again. Laughter and chatter rang through the Senior Center in Eagle Nest, New Mexico.

The Riders Forum was scheduled at 4 p.m. on Saturday. Since so many folks were traveling on Friday, Dave “Trunks” Gladwills, our 2011/2012 CR Coordinator, decided to have the Riders’ Forum on Saturday at 5:30 before the dinner. People were notified that help was needed on Saturday morning at 8 a.m. to move the bricks from the garage to the top level.

Saturday morning many, many RFTW folks and others were on hand to help move the bricks from the garage to the top where they were laid out in order of placement, which meant we began laying bricks at 9 a.m. There were 365 red bricks and 8 Medal of Honor Bricks all laid on Saturday, in record time—3 hours for the red bricks, and 45 minutes for the MOH black granite bricks, which were given full Honor Escort and laid at their own walkway leading to the Westphalls’ gravesite.

It was a good thing Rocket did so much prep work, because we got hit with a downpour just as we were finishing the MOH bricks. People ran for cover and others pitched in and helped get equipment moved out of the rain and off they went to grab lunch, which was provided, by the David Westphall Veterans Foundation, catered by Zebs of Angel Fire.

Bill “Rocket” Rager spent many hours with the David Westphall Veterans Foundation Gift Shop staff to get the bricks laid out properly, as the staff hadn’t been able to get them in the proper order. Monte and Linda used to handle all those small details, and I think we all took their hard and tedious work for granted. Rocket had things so well organized; he spent countless hours preparing the ground where bricks were to be laid. He went to Angel Fire several weeks before the event to get the ground prep work done. He had his children and sons-in-law helping him Friday. Because of all his prep work, we were laying bricks in three sections at the same time, with one of those a new sections for Unit bricks.

I remember being outside the Senior Center talking to people when Bob “Shoreparty” Talley walked up to Rocket and said “I don’t mind taking orders from you, because you make it easy.” What an awesome thing to tell someone. I was so PROUD of Rocket. He is so great to work with. He’s kind and gentle, positive with integrity. Truthfully, he is my HERO and I am proud to call him my friend.

Cruzzler was reading names again this year and giving each brick its proper salute and respect. Family members were proud and emotional as they received their veteran’s brick and carried it to its place of rest.

Cruzzler again had his clipboard-toting mamma “Ginger” at his side, helping him. Ginger had to eventually move that trusty clipboard to the “Unit” area where they needed help. They make such a great team. Well, who else would put up with Cruzzler...hehehe Love you man!!

Saturday night’s Riders Forum brought constructive input through all the emotionality of information presented. We all know the end result. YIPPEEEEE—I can continue supporting RFTW.

Dinner was a nice buffet-style chicken parmesan dish, with a salad and dessert. Calamity Jane’s catered dinner and they did an awesome job taking care of us. Head count was 75 people. Mayor Richard Cordova of Eagle Nest, New Mexico, is a man of few words, but is always so incredibly gracious to RFTW. He is such a great supporter, and we so appreciate him and his Village helping us on so many levels.

Chuck Howe, President of the David Westphall Veterans Foundation, was also a speaker during the dinner. He graciously waited around until Rocket’s granddaughter pulled the winning name for the scooter from the bowl, and took the winner’s information and relayed the good news.

I forgot to mention some information about that scooter. A dear, beloved friend of mine donated that scooter to be raffled last year, 2010, at my haircut fundraiser for the Westphall Foundation. That scooter was won last year by Floyd “Firecracker” Jaramillo, Road Guard for RFTW and Patriot Guard Riders HOTH Coordinator. Firecracker generously donated it back and we again placed it at the Westphall Foundation to raise more money. That little ole’ scooter raised \$5,000 dollars last year and this year another \$3,000. My friend always wanted to remain anonymous and I know he would be proud that his donation raised so much money. It is with great sadness, and a heavy heart, that I must share that he passed away this July. He was a Navy Veteran. I miss him terribly.

Jackie McKinney, Mayor of Gallup, New Mexico, spoke as well. RFTW is lucky to have his support and dedication. He is just a terrific person. We missed Sandra at the Reunion this year. You both ROCK!!

Three plaques were given out that night. I was so pleased that Monte Apodaca was given much-deserved recognition for all his years of support and dedication, and most especially his hard work for RFTW. The tears were of pride for acknowledging my brother, whom I love dearly. Thank you!!

Then there was Rocket ... need I say more ... he is just one awesome deserving dude!!

Then there was me, I was so shocked and proud and thankfully I was not asked to speak.

And last we had a guest speaker named Leo. He was a wealth of information regarding POWs. Leo has a brother who has been a POW for 40 years. Leo is certain his brother is alive, having seen his brother's picture on the front page of a newspaper, with a guard standing over him. What a wonderful surprise speaker he turned out to be.

I was grateful for the opportunity to organize the Reunion. So many people helped in so many ways and on so many levels. I don't know everyone, but I am learning, so all patience is appreciated.

## **STRONG BONDS AT REUNION**

By Trent "Vapors" Caster

This was my third year on RFTW and my first reunion in Angel Fire, NM. While at the reunion, we laid bricks with names engraved and Medal of Honor Recipients at the Vietnam Memorial. I had the honor of working with Dirt and Ed to lay the unit bricks. The ceremonies that accompany each part of the laying of the bricks are an emotional time for many. We had one unit that had several members that were part of Hamburger Hill. Out of 35 name bricks in each section, I would estimate 25-30 were bricks with stars, indicating they were KIA.

This memorial is a place of reflection, of healing and fellowship. Tears flowed, hugs were plentiful, and the sun shined brightly as we laid the bricks. During the weekend, we had a lot of time for fellowship and brother/sisterhood to develop. The bonds that happened on this reunion were some of the strongest I've had the honor to develop. I am humbled and honored to be apart of this wonderful organization.

I encourage anyone that has been on the Run to attend one of the reunions. You won't regret it!

## **TULSA—HOT HOT HOT REUNION!**

By Cheryl "Raven" Norman

It was hot—temps were in the mid-100 teens in Angel Fire and Eagles Nest. Some brave souls rode the bikes and looked like they just walked out of a Mad Max movie. Many of us flew in or drove.



A few arrived on Thursday along with the BOD, but most arrived mid-morning Friday. The BOD of course spent the day in meetings, so they were seen only every so often taking a break and a quick lunch then back at it. They also met on Saturday morning till noon. Serious stuff going on behind those doors. I was talked into opening that door to go in to take a picture of them working. Know the saying if looks could ... well, they were all nice and smiled!

Friday was pretty much a free day to wander. Most stayed in and those who did venture out did not stay long.

At registration each person was given a band to wear and a very nice patch for the reunion. General's Driver had a postcard photo made of General to give out with the dates of the first annual official reunion and Raven gave out CD's of all the pictures taken on the 2011 Run. Also, we had a couple of computers going with slide shows of the Run. After we worked the bugs out for the list for registration, all went well. Friday evening we all met for a social hour and meeting those that we did not know and visited with those that we all knew. We were all surprised to see that only a handful from the CR came. We have great hopes that more will come next year.

Saturday morning a few brave souls ventured out on a run that Robert Fernandez led. Ten bikes left for a four-hour ride. They too looked a bit worn when they all returned to the hotel, heading for showers and water. All said they enjoyed the ride. Others visited in the lobby of the hotel in the cool A/C. Some went to a show and others just rested.

At 4 pm on Saturday we had a riders meeting with the BOD. They covered some points and opened the floor for questions. Some of the points covered by the Boards were:

- How riders are chosen for the laying of the wreath at The Tomb of the Unknown: One person would be chosen by the RC and the other by a lottery type ticket.
- Incorporating additional Ambassadors
- The possibility of more bikes allowed into Arlington
- How RFTW now has to donate to a non-profit origination and how it would be chosen
- Thoughts as to how to attract more African-American riders
- Windshield Banners—Ray "Too Tall" took this one and said he would fix it
- Work to be done on the website, making it more user friendly
- Having a section for FNGs for questions for BOD to answer
- More Latest News from the BOD, the President, and the RC's

The Board of Directors were very open to questions and tried to answer as best they could. It was a good meeting and productive.

At 6 p.m. we all met for a social hour again and got a great group photo of not only the BOD but of all who attended the Reunion. What a crew! Thanks to the hotel staff for taking pictures for all of us!

Dinner was a Cajun-style buffet and what a wonderful job the hotel did. Lots of food! It was a great evening with lots of visiting going on.

All in all I think this Official Reunion was a success. We had approximately 60 folks, but wished more of the CR could have come. But there is always next year and maybe then it won't be as hot!

As the evening came to an end, many were planning on getting up very early to head home, especially those who rode bikes. It was great to see everyone who came and I looked forward to seeing everyone at the unofficial SR reunion in Kerrville. A very special thanks to Wahoo and Lil Bit for all the hard work they put into making this a success.



## **FIRST OFFICIAL ANNUAL RFTW RIDE**

By Robert E. Fernandez

I would like to say it was really good to see riders from the Central and Southern routes come together at the Official RFTW Reunion in Tulsa, Oklahoma for this, the first official Run For The Wall Annual Ride. It was my pleasure to fill in for David "Wahoo" Hampton who was unavailable to lead the ride due to the extended Board meeting.

The morning weather was nice as we gathered in the parking lot for the blessing of the bikes and riders. Our journey led us out US 412E to US 69 where we stopped to get fuel for one of the riders and to hydrate the rest of us. We then went north on 69 to Adair where we headed East through Cherokee State Park and by the Lake O Cherokees. Up until now all the roads were fairly straight with some large curves. At the town of Langley we went South on US 82 to enjoy more sweeping curves.

We passed Lake Spavinaw Dam and entered the Spavinaw State Park where the temperature dropped about ten degrees. It felt extremely good. And we found the road we had been looking for. The twisties were upon us as we rode about 14 miles through the Park to the town of Salina where we continued south on US 82 and crossed Lake Hudson and got back on US412 and headed for home.

This was a nice three and a half to four-hour ride with a little of every type of road you would ever want to ride. It was hot but in spite of the heat everyone had a nice ride for the very first "Official" RUN FOR THE WALL RIDE.

Every one of us on the Southern and Central routes make up Run For The Wall and we do ride for those who can't.

Thank you for the ride—I enjoyed it.

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## **► RFTW NEWS**

### **CR ROAD GUARDS NEEDED**

By Roger "Grizzly" Ingram, CR RG Captain

If you think you might want to become a Central Route Road Guard, you will need: (1) to be going all the way; (2) to have gone all the way before; (3) to have taken an ERC course in the last 2 years; (4) to be able to work with all people; and (5) to be a "Sheep Dog," because you will have the safety of the pack and the Mission of the Run as your main focus.

The pay is good, the hours are long, the conditions are a little risky! If you would be interested, send me an e-mail at [rlisdi@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rlisdi@sbcglobal.net), and tell me about yourself, and why you want to step up. Thanks

### **RFTW MERCHANDISE**

By David "Wahoo" Hampton, Director of Merchandise

We had a bit of an unexpected surprise after last year's run. When I received the trailer, we had very little merchandise that had been requested by our riders on line to sell. I did not get the trailer until the end of July

this year, and our new merchandise was only recently received. The trailer is now stocked and available in the online store and available. I'm sorry for the delay of orders being filled, but it was an unexpected circumstance.

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## ► OUR STORIES

### A NAME ON THE WALL

By Micapeak, from RFTW Forum

Last week when I went to my church, I wore a 2011 RFTW t-shirt. After services, we have coffee and donuts, and visit. A fellow parishioner approached me, and asked when I had gone to the wall. I told him, and asked if he had gone there. He told me that he had gone there many times, the first when he went to see his son, who was going to University of Washington. They met and his son said "let's take a walk to the Lincoln Memorial. On the way there, they walked past the Wall. As they walked, his son reached down and touched a name on the wall. My friend asked his son why he did that. The son said he didn't know, but had done that each time he had gone to the Lincoln Memorial.

My friend had not told his son of his experiences in Vietnam! When he looked at the name, it was of that of buddy that he had met in Nam. His buddy had given him a letter to mail, in case anything happened while he was out on patrol. Unfortunately, the buddy was killed. My friend said he mailed the letter, along with his own, to the family. He had never discussed this with his son, so it was quite a shock when his son had **picked that name to touch!!!**

He told me that he broke down then and cried. **Understandable!!!** He finally put his friend to rest, and gave his son an insight into his dad's past. He said that was the best thing that could happen to him.

After he told this to me, we both hugged, and I told him, "Welcome Home"! I have to admit, there were no dry eyes then also! I am so glad to be part of his homecoming.

### THE TWILIGHT ZONE

By Rknee

Greetings from KC.

"You're traveling through another dimension, a dimension not only of sight and sound but of mind. A journey into a wondrous land whose boundaries are that of imagination. That's the signpost up ahead—your next stop, the Twilight Zone!"

From the Twilight Zone to the Land of Oz. No red shoes to click to get home and no Toto to greet me when I arrived. Something better, Cindy. Got home at 1 p.m. today. What a weekend.

I truly in the last 5 days have traveled through another dimension full of sights, the plains of Kansas, Colorado, Oklahoma, and New Mexico. The beauty of the Sangre De Cristo mountains, or known as the Blood of Christ. The Walsenburg area, the Fort Garland and then the Red River. So much of God's handiwork there to be seen. Angel Fire memorial has a beauty all its own.

Sound, the purr, the rumble, the noise of motorcycles. The chatting on CB's. The wind whispering His name. The laughter and the crying at Angel Fire. The bickering and sharing with family at Eagles Nest Senior Center. The snoring, the sneaking around in the dark so as to not wake your roommate. All part of another dimension not found just anywhere.



The mind, well my wife tells me I don't have to go far to be in another dimension in my mind. Truth is I am taken back to fonder times of growing up as a kid, to the rice paddies of Vietnam, to 15 journeys with Run For The Wall. To loved ones who have come and gone. To believing with all my heart that my God is in control and that He still has a plan for my life.

The Twilight Zone may be a figment of my own imagination, but Cruzzer and Ginger aren't. Neither are Tanker and Girlfriend, or Jackie McKinney or Tom and Denise or Pops and DC and Babysitter. Jess and Grizz, Curtis and Ross, JR and Teresa, The Olson's, Rocket and his whole gang. Dirt and Trent and the list goes on. John King and his beautiful wife, an inspiration to all. Attitude and Trunks and so many more. They are as real and complex as any imagination could be. I am proud to call them family even if at times we are totally dysfunctional. We ride hard, love passionately, and weep and mourn over those who are no longer with us.

For those of you who were not at Angel Fire, I can only say that you were missed and that you missed out on something so special. You missed out on families laying bricks along a walkway. You missed their tears, their pride, their patriotism. You missed the friendly fire at a dinner on Saturday night. All were wounded that night in some way or another. You missed a chance to worship God in an amazingly powerful setting in God's country. You missed the hugs and the tears of goodbye. But you also missed the welcome home by the loved ones we couldn't bring.

In closing, I would like to think that maybe in those five days I made a difference in someone's life. Maybe even for a moment they saw Jesus instead of me. I would like to think that I am a better person for having made the trip. I know that people there touched my life. Thank you! I also know that with every journey there are sacrifices made. One of the biggest ones is made by the love of my life, Cindy. She struggles every time I go as I know she would love to be a part of it. She is whether she knows it or not. She may not be with me physically, but she is there. Will there be another trip through the Twilight Zone? Only God knows for sure. As for me, I hope so. To my friend, an FNG of sorts, Thank you for making the journey. To Grizz and Bones, no words can say what I feel. To Curtis, you are still my hero.

Sleep well tonight, Day 5 is in the books. You are all on watch.

Rknee

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## ► OTHER STORIES

*This is strong medicine. It brings home just some of the unimaginable sacrifices that have been made since the birth of our nation to keep us free and to preserve the America that we all grew up in and love so much*

### **BURIAL AT SEA**

by Lt. Col. George Goodson, USMC (Ret)

In my 76th year, the events of my life appear to me, from time to time, as a series of vignettes. Some were significant; most were trivial. War is the seminal event in the life of everyone that has endured it. Though I fought in Korea and the Dominican Republic and was wounded there, Vietnam was my war.

Now 42 years have passed and, thankfully, I rarely think of those days in Cambodia, Laos, and the panhandle of North Vietnam where small teams of Americans and Montangards fought much larger elements of the North Vietnamese Army. Instead I see vignettes: some exotic, some mundane: The smell of Nuc Mam . . . The heat,

dust, and humidity . . . The blue exhaust of cycles clogging the streets . . . Elephants moving silently through the tall grass . . . Hard eyes behind the servile smiles of the villagers . . . Standing on a mountain in Laos and hearing a tiger roar . . . A young girl squeezing my hand as my medic delivered her baby . . . The flowing Ao Dais of the young women biking down Tran Hung Dao . . . My two years as Casualty Notification Officer in North Carolina, Virginia, and Maryland.

It was late 1967. I had just returned after 18 months in Vietnam. Casualties were increasing. I moved my family from Indianapolis to Norfolk, rented a house, enrolled my children in their fifth or sixth new school, and bought a second car. A week later, I put on my uniform and drove 10 miles to Little Creek, Virginia. I hesitated before entering my new office. Appearance is important to career Marines. I was no longer, if ever, a poster Marine. I had returned from my third tour in Vietnam only 30 days before. At 5'9", I now weighed 128 pounds - 37 pounds below my normal weight. My uniforms fit ludicrously, my skin was yellow from malaria medication, and I think I had a twitch or two. I straightened my shoulders, walked into the office, looked at the nameplate on a Staff Sergeant's desk and said, "Sergeant Jolly, I'm Lieutenant Colonel Goodson. Here are my orders and my Qualification Jacket." Sergeant Jolly stood, looked carefully at me, took my orders, stuck out his hand; we shook and he asked, "How long were you there, Colonel?" I replied "18 months this time." Jolly breathed, "You must be a slow learner, Colonel." I smiled. Jolly said, "Colonel, I'll show you to your office and bring in the Sergeant Major. I said, "No, let's just go straight to his office." Jolly nodded, hesitated, and lowered his voice, "Colonel, the Sergeant Major. He's been in this job two years. He's packed pretty tight. I'm worried about him." I nodded.

Jolly escorted me into the Sergeant Major's office. "Sergeant Major, this is Colonel Goodson, the new Commanding Officer." The Sergeant Major stood, extended his hand and said, "Good to see you again, Colonel." I responded, "Hello Walt, how are you?" Jolly looked at me, raised an eyebrow, walked out, and closed the door. I sat down with the Sergeant Major. We had the obligatory cup of coffee and talked about mutual acquaintances. Walt's stress was palpable. Finally, I said, "Walt, what the hell's wrong?" He turned his chair, looked out the window and said, "George, you're going to wish you were back in Nam before you leave here. I've been in the Marine Corps since 1939. I was in the Pacific 36 months, Korea for 14 months, and Vietnam for 12 months. Now I come here to bury these kids. I'm putting my letter in. I can't take it anymore."

I said, "OK Walt. If that's what you want, I'll endorse your request for retirement and do what I can to push it through Headquarters Marine Corps." Sergeant Major Walt Xxxxx retired 12 weeks later. He had been a good Marine for 28 years, but he had seen too much death and too much suffering. He was used up. Over the next 16 months, I made 28 death notifications, conducted 28 military funerals, and made 30 notifications to the families of Marines that were severely wounded or missing in action. Most of the details of those casualty notifications have now, thankfully, faded from memory. Four, however, remain.

### My First Notification

My third or fourth day in Norfolk, I was notified of the death of a 19-year-old Marine. This notification came by telephone from Headquarters Marine Corps. The information detailed: Name, rank, and serial number; Name, address, and phone number of next of kin; Date of and limited details about the Marine's death; Approximate date the body would arrive at the Norfolk Naval Air Station; A strong recommendation on whether the casket should be opened or closed.

The boy's family lived over the border in North Carolina, about 60 miles away. I drove there in a Marine Corps staff car. Crossing the state line into North Carolina, I stopped at a small country store/service station/Post Office. I went in to ask directions. Three people were in the store. A man and woman approached the small Post Office window. The man held a package. The store owner walked up and addressed them by name, "Hello John. Good morning Mrs. Cooper." I was stunned. My casualty's next-of-kin's name was John Cooper! I hesitated, then stepped forward and said, "I beg your pardon. Are you Mr. and Mrs. John Cooper of (address)?" The father looked at me - I was in uniform - and then, shaking, bent at the waist, he vomited. His wife looked

horrified at him and then at me. Understanding came into her eyes and she collapsed in slow motion. I think I caught her before she hit the floor. The owner took a bottle of whiskey out of a drawer and handed it to Mr. Cooper, who drank. I answered their questions for a few minutes. Then I drove them home in my staff car. The store owner locked the store and followed in their truck. We stayed an hour or so until the family began arriving. I returned the store owner to his business. He thanked me and said, "Mister, I wouldn't have your job for a million dollars." I shook his hand and said; "Neither would I." I vaguely remember the drive back to Norfolk. Violating about five Marine Corps regulations, I drove the staff car straight to my house. I sat with my family while they ate dinner, went into the den, closed the door, and sat there all night, alone. My Marines steered clear of me for days. I had made my first death notification.

### The Funerals

Weeks passed with more notifications and more funerals. I borrowed Marines from the local Marine Corps Reserve and taught them to conduct a military funeral: how to carry a casket, how to fire the volleys and how to fold the flag. When I presented the flag to the mother, wife, or father, I always said, "All Marines share in your grief." I had been instructed to say, "On behalf of a grateful nation...." I didn't think the nation was grateful, so I didn't say that. Sometimes, my emotions got the best of me and I couldn't speak. When that happened, I just handed them the flag and touched a shoulder. They would look at me and nod. Once a mother said to me, "I'm so sorry you have this terrible job." My eyes filled with tears and I leaned over and kissed her.

### Another Notification

Six weeks after my first notification, I had another. This was a young PFC. I drove to his mother's house. As always, I was in uniform and driving a Marine Corps staff car. I parked in front of the house, took a deep breath, and walked towards the house. Suddenly the door flew open, a middle-aged woman rushed out. She looked at me and ran across the yard, screaming "NO! NO! NO! NO!" I hesitated. Neighbors came out. I ran to her, grabbed her, and whispered stupid things to reassure her. She collapsed. I picked her up and carried her into the house. Eight or nine neighbors followed. Ten or fifteen minutes later, the father came in followed by ambulance personnel. I have no recollection of leaving. The funeral took place about two weeks later. We went through the drill. The mother never looked at me. The father looked at me once and shook his head sadly.

### Another Notification

One morning, as I walked in the office, the phone was ringing. Sergeant Jolly held the phone up and said, "You've got another one, Colonel." I nodded, walked into my office, picked up the phone, took notes, thanked the officer making the call, I have no idea why, and hung up. Jolly, who had listened, came in with a special Telephone Directory that translates telephone numbers into the person's address and place of employment. The father of this casualty was a longshoreman. He lived a mile from my office. I called the Longshoreman's Union Office and asked for the Business Manager. He answered the phone, I told him who I was, and asked for the father's schedule. The Business Manager asked, "Is it his son?" I said nothing. After a moment, he said, in a low voice, "Tom is at home today." I said, "Don't call him. I'll take care of that." The Business Manager said, "Aye, Aye Sir," and then explained, "Tom and I were Marines in WWII." I got in my staff car and drove to the house. I was in uniform. I knocked and a woman in her early forties answered the door. I saw instantly that she was clueless. I asked, "Is Mr. Smith home?" She smiled pleasantly and responded, "Yes, but he's eating breakfast now. Can you come back later?" I said, "I'm sorry. It's important. I need to see him now." She nodded, stepped back into the beach house and said, "Tom, it's for you." A moment later, a ruddy man in his late forties, appeared at the door. He looked at me, turned absolutely pale, steadied himself, and said, "Jesus Christ man, he's only been there three weeks!"

Months passed. More notifications and more funerals. Then one day while I was running, Sergeant Jolly stepped outside the building and gave a loud whistle, two fingers in his mouth—I never could do that—and held an imaginary phone to his ear. Another call from Headquarters Marine Corps. I took notes, said, "Got it."

and hung up. I had stopped saying "Thank You" long ago. Jolly, "Where?" Me, "Eastern Shore of Maryland. The father is a retired Chief Petty Officer. His brother will accompany the body back from Vietnam ...." Jolly shook his head slowly, straightened, and then said, "This time of day, it'll take three hours to get there and back. I'll call the Naval Air Station and borrow a helicopter. And I'll have Captain Tolliver get one of his men to meet you and drive you to the Chief's home." He did, and 40 minutes later, I was knocking on the father's door. He opened the door, looked at me, then looked at the Marine standing at parade rest beside the car, and asked, "Which one of my boys was it, Colonel?" I stayed a couple of hours, gave him all the information, my office and home phone number and told him to call me, anytime. He called me that evening about 2300. "I've gone through my boy's papers and found his will. He asked to be buried at sea. Can you make that happen?" I said, "Yes I can, Chief. I can and I will." My wife who had been listening said, "Can you do that?" I told her, "I have no idea. But I'm going to break my ass trying." I called Lieutenant General Alpha Bowser, Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force Atlantic, at home about 2330, explained the situation, and asked, "General, can you get me a quick appointment with the Admiral at Atlantic Fleet Headquarters?" General Bowser said, "George, you be there tomorrow at 0900. He will see you." I was and the Admiral did. He said coldly, "How can the Navy help the Marine Corps, Colonel?" I told him the story. He turned to his Chief of Staff and said, "Which is the sharpest destroyer in port?" The Chief of Staff responded with a name. The Admiral called the ship, "Captain, you're going to do a burial at sea. You'll report to a Marine Lieutenant Colonel Goodson until this mission is completed." He hung up, looked at me, and said, "The next time you need a ship, Colonel, call me. You don't have to sic Al Bowser on my ass." I responded, "Aye Aye, Sir" and got the hell out of his office. I went to the ship and met with the Captain, Executive Officer, and the Senior Chief. Sergeant Jolly and I trained the ship's crew for four days. Then Jolly raised a question none of us had thought of. He said, "These government caskets are air tight. How do we keep it from floating?" All the high priced help including me sat there looking dumb. Then the Senior Chief stood and said, "Come on Jolly. I know a bar where the retired guys from World War II hang out." They returned a couple of hours later, slightly the worse for wear, and said, "It's simple; we cut four 12" holes in the outer shell of the casket on each side and insert 300 lbs of lead in the foot end of the casket. We can handle that, no sweat." The day arrived. The ship and the sailors looked razor sharp. General Bowser, the Admiral, a US Senator, and a Navy Band were on board. The sealed casket was brought aboard and taken below for modification. The ship got underway to the 12-fathom depth. The sun was hot, the ocean flat. The casket was brought aft and placed on a catafalque. The Chaplain spoke. The volleys were fired. The flag was removed, folded, and I gave it to the father. The band played "Eternal Father Strong to Save." The casket was raised slightly at the head and it slid into the sea. The heavy casket plunged straight down about six feet. The incoming water collided with the air pockets in the outer shell. The casket stopped abruptly, rose straight out of the water about three feet, stopped, and slowly slipped back into the sea. The air bubbles rising from the sinking casket sparkled in the sunlight as the casket disappeared from sight forever....

The next morning I called a personal friend, Lieutenant General Oscar Peatross, at Headquarters Marine Corps and said, "General, get me out of here. I can't take this anymore." I was transferred two weeks later. I was a good Marine but, after 17 years, I had seen too much death and too much suffering. I was used up. Vacating the house, my family and I drove to the office in a two-car convoy. I said my goodbyes. Sergeant Jolly walked out with me. He waved at my family, looked at me with tears in his eyes, came to attention, saluted, and said, "Well Done, Colonel. Well Done." I felt as if I had received the Medal of Honor!

'A veteran is someone who, at one point, wrote a blank check made payable to 'The United States of America' for an amount of 'up to and including their life.' That is Honor, and there are way too many people in this country who no longer understand it.' I am honored to pass this on and I hope you feel that way too. I want to say "Thank you" for your service to every Veteran who reads this. God bless you. Semper Fi

**VETERAN OF THREE WARS WILL FINALLY SEE MEMORIALS**

Bill Watson, 88, is confined to a wheelchair and lives in a nursing home, but when he was younger, he served in three wars and spent more than two years as a prisoner of war in Korea.

Watson was captured by the Chinese Communist army in Korea in May 1951. He survived 837 days — in the first few months marching from town to town, eating road kill and grass. In the years since, he's wished many times that he could have visited the national memorials for all three wars in which he served.

Next week that wish will come true. He was selected from a pool of 1,000 people to go on an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C., to see the memorials to those who served in World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War. The trips are organized by Wish-of-a-Lifetime, a group that honors senior citizens by trying to turn one of their life dreams into reality.

Watson and his military history is well-documented. A platoon leader in the Army's 2nd Infantry Division, he survived the May Massacre in Korea. He arrived in that country as part of a group of experienced soldiers, deployed from inactive reserve status after World War II, because the U.S. government feared Korea was the beginning of World War III. Watson was replacing someone, but that officer didn't greet him on arrival. He had been killed hours before.

Instead, he encountered the opening salvos of a massive attack from Chinese Communist and North Korean soldiers, a battle that historians would later name the Korean May Massacre. Outnumbered, the Allies girded themselves in foxholes behind barbed wire, determined to survive. Thousands of enemy troops died on the front lines that day. But thousands more Allied troops would die in the weeks after their capture.

His happiest moment was when he was reunited with his wife and children after his imprisonment. Watson was 100 pounds lighter, but scars went deep.

Watson was deployed once more — to Vietnam. He was part of a team of "advisers" helping in the jungle battles of the early 1960s. But after one very close encounter with a bullet, he felt his luck was running out. After 25 years of military service, he retired.

Watson eventually moved his family to Peculiar, Kansas, but he couldn't stay away from public service. Watson ran for mayor and served eight years in office, where he befriended another mayor — Emanuel Cleaver II from Kansas City. In a speech to Congress, U.S. Rep. Cleaver told the story of his fellow mayor and personal friend, Maj. William C. Watson. It's about honoring Watson, Cleaver said in the speech, for his "tireless patriotism and unrelenting heroism."

## **IS YOUR RIDE READY FOR THE ROAD?**

From ABATE of CA; sent by Gunny

### **USING THE "T-CLOCK" MOTORCYCLE INSPECTION METHOD**

**T – TIRES AND WHEELS:** (TIRES) Tread depth, wear, weathering, evenly seated, bulges, imbedded objects. (AIR PRESSURE) check when cold.. adjust to load/speed. (WHEELS) (SPOKES) bent, broken, missing, tension...check at top of wheel, "ring" means ok, "thud" means loose spoke. (CAST) cracks & dents. (RIMS) out of round/true =5 mm... spin wheel, index against stationary pointer. (BEARINGS) grab top and bottom of tire and flex: no freeplay (click) between hub and axle, no growl when spinning. (SEALS) cracked, cut and torn, excessive grease on outside, reddish-brown around outside.

**C - CONTROLS:** ( LEVERS) broken, bent, cracked, mounts tight, ball ends on handlebar lever. (PIVOTS) lubricated. (CABLES) fraying, kinks, lubrication, ends & length. ROUTING: no interference or pulling at steering head, suspension, no sharp angles, wire looms in place. (THROTTLE) moves freely, snaps closed, no revving.

**L – LIGHTS:** (BATTERY) Terminals clean & tight, electrolyte level ok, held down securely. Vent tube not kinked, routed properly, not plugged. (LENSES) cracked, broken, clean, securely mounted, excessive condensation. (REFLECTORS) cracked, broken, securely mounted..(WIRING) fraying, chafing, insulation, routing ok, pinched, no interference or pulling at steering head or suspension, wire looms and ties in place, connectors tight, clean. (HEADLAMP) cracks, reflector, mounting and adjustment system, aimed properly.

**O - OIL:** (ENGINE OIL)... Check warm on centerstand, dipstick, sight glass. (HYPOID GEAR OIL)...Transmission, rear driver, shaft. (HYDRAULIC FLUID)...Brakes, clutch, reservoir or sight glass.

(FUEL)...tank or gauge. (COOLANT)...Reservoir and/or coolant recovery tank, check when cool only.

(CHECK FOR LEAKS AT:) ENGINE OIL: gaskets, housing, & seals. HYPOID GEAR: gaskets, seals and breathers. HYDRAULIC FLUID: hoses, master cylinders, calipers. COOLANT: radiator, hoses, tanks, fittings, pipes. FUEL: lines, fueltaps, carbs.

**C – CHASSIS:** (FRAME) Cracks at gussets, accessory mounts, look for paint lifting. STEERING HEAD BEARINGS: No detent or tight spots through full travel, raise front wheel and check for play by pulling/pushing forks. SWINGARM BUSHINGS/ BEARINGS. Rise rear wheel, check for play by pushing/pulling swingarm. (SUSPENSION): FORKS: Smooth travel, equal air pressure or damping, anti-dive settings.

SHOCK(S): Smooth travel, equal preload/air pressure/damping settings, linkage moves freely and is lubricated. CHAIN OR BELT TENSION: Check at tightest point.. Lubrication of belt/chain sprockets, check side-plates when hot..(don't let lubrication get on belts.) SPROCKETS: Teeth not hooked, securely mounted. (FASTNERS) THREADED, Tight, missing bolts, nuts. CLIPS: broken, missing. COTTER PINS: broken, missing.

**K – KICKSTAND:** CENTERSTAND cracked, bent. Springs in place, tension to hold position.

SIDESTAND cracked, bent (safety cut-out switch or pad if equipped). Springs in place, tension to hold position.

## **TIME TO RE-TIRE?**

by John Del Santo, ABATE of CA

A good set of properly inflated motorcycle tires with good tread keeps us attached to the road and separates us from being just another flying object. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. estimates that hundreds of thousands of crashes could be prevented if vehicle owners kept their tires properly inflated. This agency recommends checking your tire pressure at least “once per month.” When you’re on a trip, checking the pressure every morning is not a bad idea. According to the U.S. Department of Energy, keeping your tires properly inflated can improve your gas mileage up to 3.3%. And this quote was made *before* gasoline prices reached four bucks a gallon!

The MSF’s “T-Clock Inspection” advises us to check: “(TIRES) Tread depth, wear, weathering, evenly seated, bulges, imbedded objects. (AIR PRESSURE) check when cold,.adjust to load/speed.” If you do a lot of one-type riding, such as a lot of Freeway, your tread will wear unevenly—par of the tread can wear down while other parts look deep enough. Watch for the “wear bars” in the tread. When you change a tire, invest in a new valve stem.

Depending on the shape and size of the wheel and the valve stem, it can be a pain in the butt to check the air pressure on your bike. “Aw....what the heck...the tire *looks* round, it must be OK.” I bought a small, brass,

right-angled valve stem from San Diego BMW that attached to the valve stem on my wife's bike and made her life easier. Some Hondas come with a large L-shaped valve stem that sticks out and simplifies reaching the stem with a gauge or air hose nozzle. That stem comes with a plastic support to keep the stem from vibrating, and if the stem is installed *without* that support, road vibrations can cause a crack in the stem ... and cause an instant "Air-Out." That was an exciting experience !

AccuPressureCaps.com sells a valve stem cap that changes color when the tire pressure starts to get lower. If your tire pressure is too low, or too high, the tread will start to cup or bow and not make proper contact with the road ... that kinda defeats the whole purpose of having good tread. The recommended pressure printed on the side of the tire is there for a good reason.

Any time a tire starts showing ozone cracks in the sidewall, it's time to replace them right away. Sidewalls operate at some pretty high temperatures due to the fluctuation of the sidewall and any separation on a sidewall can cause catastrophic tire failure. A tire has a wax-like preservative in the rubber compound to keep it from hardening and splitting. This material is like sun blocker. It's that off-color material that seems to show up on your sidewalls for no reason. It protects the compound against ozone which is produced by the sun and also by electric motors. This protectant helps the compound to stay soft, but it can be worn away, washed away, and chemically washed/leached out of the tire.

Do NOT clean your tires with stuff like Armor All. There *are* a few solutions that Detailers use on tires that will not harm the tire ... if you are into "pretty" instead of functional ... but when applying even these, you can use it on the sidewall but not past the line that separates the sidewall from the tread area.

There are many important Round Things in life—like Silver Dollars and Crispy Donuts—but the most important are our motorcycle tires! They keep us alive and keep our knees in the Breeze ! Take good care of your tires and they will take care of you.

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## ► VA NEWS

### VETERANS FRANCHISING PROGRAM

Kahala, Inc and the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services announce the launch of Kahala's **Boots to Business Veteran Franchising Program**.

As one of the fastest growing franchising companies in North America, Kahala Corp is a privately held corporation dedicated to the franchising, development, and marketing of quick-service restaurants and includes concepts such as Blimpie's, Cold Stone Creamery, Samurai Sam's, Great Steak, and many more. Kahala recognizes that veterans leave the military with a highly experienced skillset attuned for small business, including managing an effective team, establishing and following operating procedures, and focus to achieve success.

Kahala is dedicated to developing a path for Veteran business ownership through their partnership with Arizona Department of Veterans' Services, and will help veterans franchise, develop, and market any combination of their 13 store concepts.

If you are a veteran interested in learning more about Kahala's **Boots to Business** Veteran Franchising Program please visit <http://www.kahalacorp.com/veterans/>

Information can also be found at the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services:

Please share this announcement with those veterans who are interested in pursuing small business ownership.

## **OUTREACH CAMPAIGN TO ELIMINATE HOMELESSNESS AMONG VETERANS**

WASHINGTON (Oct. 12, 2011)- As part of its drive to end homelessness among Veterans by 2015, the Department of Veterans Affairs is launching a nationwide outreach initiative, "Make the Call," to spread the message about its special programs to help homeless Veterans and their families to 28 communities across the nation in October.

"Those who have served this nation as Veterans should never find themselves on the streets, living without care and without hope," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki. Shinseki noted that 28 communities—from Atlanta to Hawaii—will host special programs this fall highlighting local services for homeless Veterans, their families and those at risk of becoming homeless.

"Working with our partners in state and local government, the non-profit and the private sectors, we can restore our homeless Veterans and their families to the lives of dignity they've earned," Shinseki added. This fiscal year, VA expects to spend \$3.4 billion to provide health care to homeless Veterans and \$800 million in specialized homeless programs. The latest studies say more than 75,000 Veterans are homeless on a typical night, and about 135,000 spend at least one night a year in a homeless shelter. VA is encouraging family, friends and citizens in the community to "Make the Call" and help prevent and end homelessness among Veterans.

Since March 2010, VA has offered a toll-free telephone number, staffed around the clock by trained professionals, to help homeless Veterans, their families and at-risk people. The number is 877-4AID-VET (or 877-424-3838). Recently, VA has transformed its efforts in the fight against homelessness. It is changing from a program focus upon temporary, shelter-based services, to prevention, employment, permanent housing, and help to families and Veterans at risk of becoming homeless.

The special awareness and outreach programs in the 28 selected communities are in:

- \* Alaska - Anchorage, Oct. 12
- \* Arizona - Phoenix, Oct. 18-19
- \* California - San Francisco, Oct. 19;  
Los Angeles and San Diego, Oct. 12
- \* Colorado - Denver, Oct. 14
- \* District of Columbia - Oct. 14
- \* Florida - Miami, Oct. 21
- \* Georgia - Atlanta, Oct. 29
- \* Hawaii - Kauai, Oct. 14; Oahu, Oct. 17
- \* Illinois - Chicago, Oct. 12
- \* Louisiana - New Orleans, Oct. 22
- \* Massachusetts - Boston, Oct. 20
- \* Michigan - Detroit, Oct. 12
- \* Missouri - St. Louis, Oct. 17
- \* Montana -- Billings, Oct. 11
- \* Nevada - Las Vegas, Oct. 6
- \* New York - Canandaigua, Oct. 12;  
New York Harbor, Oct. 21
- \* North Carolina - Fayetteville, Oct. 12
- \* Ohio - Cleveland, Oct. 12



- \* Pennsylvania - Lebanon, Oct. 12
- \* South Dakota - Sioux Falls, Oct. 12
- \* Tennessee - Memphis, Oct. 11
- \* Texas - Houston, Oct. 20; Dallas, Oct. 18
- \* Washington - Seattle, Oct. 12

More information about VA's programs for homeless Veterans, at-risk Veterans and their families is available at [www.va.gov/homeless](http://www.va.gov/homeless).

## **MEDICS SAVING MORE LIVES WITH BETTER TECHNOLOGY AND TRAINING**

From HuffPost on AOL

Stepping carefully through the blinding sun and heat and dust of southern Afghanistan with Lance Cpl. Tyler Southern and several squads of sweating Marines was a brand-new Navy corpsman, James Stoddard. He had never treated a real-life battle casualty. He was 19 years old.

Yet when an IED blew off Southern's legs and right arm, leaving him bleeding to death in the smoking crater, Stoddard's reaction was quick and simple: "You see a missing limb, you throw on a tourniquet."

Stoddard had already strapped tourniquets on simulated bleeding limbs hundreds of times, maybe thousands. During four months of medical school, two months of field training and then relentless drilling with the Marines, he'd practiced slamming that tourniquet on and yanking it tight over and over. By feel, blindfolded, in the rain, in the heat and while a sergeant bawled him out, Stoddard's fingertips learned to quickly trace out the slick of fake blood on a volunteer and, one-handed, slip that tourniquet up and strap it down hard.

That training helped Stoddard to power through the shock of seeing his buddy blasted into pieces. Southern's life now depended on him. What did that moment feel like? "I have no idea," Stoddard says. "I literally don't remember. Muscle memory took over."

That begins to explain why Tyler Southern didn't die that day, May 5, 2010. Thanks to Stoddard, Southern came home -- badly wounded, but alive.

Stoddard is part of a long and noble tradition. Battlefield medics have saved countless lives since the Civil War and techniques have improved steadily since then, in small and large ways (at the Battle of Manassas in 1862, for example, it took a week to get the wounded off the field; today that usually happens almost immediately, most often by medevac helicopter with a trauma specialist aboard).

Razor-sharp training, battle-tested new medical procedures and new technology -- and the heroic work of medics like Stoddard -- are rescuing and revivifying a new generation of severely wounded survivors.

Combat has always produced gruesome wounds, and until recently many were fatal. During the Vietnam war, out of every 10 who died on the battlefield, nine would have died even if a trauma surgeon was standing next to them -- there simply wasn't the medical technology or know-how to keep them alive.

"We've changed that nine of 10 to five or six out of 10," says Dale Smith, a medical historian at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Bethesda, Md., a Defense Department medical school. "That's a huge difference. We've had 43,000 wounded in 10 years of war, and only 6,000 died. That's 13 percent, as low a number as we've ever had."

I interviewed Smith last summer, and since then those numbers have risen to 46,300 wounded and 6,232 dead, roughly the same 13 percent.

What changed?

Since March 2005, every troop headed into combat is certified with advanced trauma care training as a Combat Life Saver and carries at least two tourniquets and an airway tube. Those devices have dramatically cut the primary causes of previous combat deaths: choking and bleeding to death. A combat life saver medical kit also carries a needle and catheter for relieving pressure caused by a chest wound.

Other innovations include rapidly infusing patients in the operating room with a combination of whole blood, plasma and platelets to stem bleeding, rather the previous practice of using crystelloids or saline solution; rapid medical evacuation from the war zone aboard aircraft that are essentially flying intensive care units; and "smart" powered artificial limbs and experimental use of regenerated bone and spray-on skin.

"There's been more innovation in this war than in any other," said Dr. Robert Hale, a surgeon at the Armed Forces Institute of Surgical Research in San Antonio, where a number of clinical trials are about to get underway. "Much still has to be proven in the lab."

Tyler Southern, thanks to James Stoddard, is one of the saved.

In a previous war, he likely would have lived only minutes after an IED exploded beneath him, as all the blood in his body drained into the dust. Until recently, medics and corpsmen didn't use tourniquets. Official military medical practice was to pump IV saline solution into the patient and then try to stem the bleeding with bandages. The result: [more than half of all those struck down in battle died of acute hemorrhage](#).

Tourniquets had long spooked military medical experts because in civilian practice, a tightly-bound limb could become damaged from lack of blood and require amputation. But by the early years of the Afghanistan and Iraq wars, the death rates in battle were so dismaying that combat trauma medics and doctors began reconsidering the tourniquet. In combat, they figured, better to risk the potential loss of a limb than to risk the loss of the patient. To embrace that strategy, the military turned on a dime: it supplied medics with [redesigned tourniquets](#) that could be applied and tightened with one hand.

The tourniquets proved so effective that in 2005 the military began issuing two to every combat troop, along with extensive instruction and training on how to use them on themselves and on buddies.

The tourniquet is only one innovation that is now saving lives

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## ► OTHER NEWS

### UPDATES FROM VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL STATE PARK

Angel Fire, New Mexico

Slowly but surely we're improving our displays in the renovated visitor center. It's our goal to better tell the stories of our veterans who served in Vietnam.

Our collection of medals was formerly in a large case that made the medals rather underwhelming. We've moved them to a smaller case designed to better show them off. The empty space left by their move in the large case has been filled with new objects and a few that were in storage.

The Ronald Ponder Collection is still a work in progress. Several of the documents will be framed to better show them off and work will begin on that next month. We have completed a case designed to show off the uniform from the collection. Previously it was folded and on the bottom shelf of its case. Now it hangs proudly on the wall where the patches and medals are easily seen.

Recently Hoot Gibson donated his field desk to the Memorial. It's a wonderful addition. Park staffer, Chuck Bolsinger, designed a pedestal for it and you can see it in our *War in Place* section.

### Meet Our Off-Season Staff

Our staffing has changed quite a bit in the last month. Gone are volunteers Deb Herbst and Louise Haebig. Patty Sweeters has gone from paid seasonal employee to volunteer because she said she'll miss the place.

Last year two days a week, the park was manned by staff from Eagle Nest Lake, Cimarron Canyon and Coyote Creek State Parks. This year, two out of those three parks are also short-staffed. As a result, the state allowed us to keep seasonal staffer, Chuck Bolsinger, two days a week. This is great news since Chuck is more familiar with the park and a much better resource for our visitors. He also knows the grounds well which is helpful when moving snow. (Just where was that sidewalk anyway?) When he's not moving snow, he can build display cases and work on projects to improve the place for next year's busy season. Recently, Chuck finished a new layer of asphalt seal on the old guest house driveway.

Kate is still here five days a week. When she has to be elsewhere, volunteers Barbara Thorne, Cindy Sprott, and Patty jump in to help out.

### New Acquisitions

David Westphall Veterans Foundation board member Hoot Gibson recently donated a couple of really unique items to the Memorial.

His field desk now holds a place of honor in our museum. It was used in Saigon in 1962 during project "Pipe Stem" which was reconstituted in Thailand as operation "Able Mabel" during 1962-1963. Eventually the desk was moved to Shaw AFB as part of the 22nd Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron's mobility deployment package.

Hoot also donated an experimental flying suit. It was part of an effort to develop a suit that would be comfortable yet withstand the rigors of high speed ejections and escape and evasion in a dense jungle environment. The suit was worn on numerous missions over Laos and both North and South Vietnam. Look for it to be displayed in the future.

We've reached our slow season and as winter approaches, it will get even slower. I don't mind the winter months. Well...I don't especially enjoy moving massive amounts of snow but having the visitor center mostly to myself isn't a bad thing. We're approaching the time of year when I get lots done to improve the visitor center for next year's busy season. I'm able to work uninterrupted on projects that can't easily be done in the summer.

I have a few goals for this winter:

1. Load photos from our archives onto the external library for the library computers. Visitors can then search by topics or units.
2. Load more videos onto the external hard drive to offer more choices to our visitors.
3. Update the Viking Surprise PowerPoint presentation with recently acquired information.
4. Update current slide shows with information on the photos if information is available.

5. Frame objects from the Ronald Ponder Collection.
6. Replace the binders for our casualty lists with smaller ones that are more durable.
7. Work on a formal proposal to get Viking Surprise patched and repainted and determine a timeline for the project.
8. Create an exhibit featuring Miss America and other USO shows.
9. Design a new exhibit for our rotating exhibit space.

This should keep me busy on those cold winter days. Wish me luck!

Kate German  
Interim Manager/Heritage Educator

## **CALL TO ACTION: MILITARY CUTS**

*The follow is from National Legislative Updates, Sept 23, 2011, by Gene Fenstermacher, member of Board of Directors of the Military Officers Association of America, Coronado Chapter; AZ Veterans Hall of Fame. Call your representatives to demand they vote against this proposal. Our veterans deserve better than this; they must not have benefits taken away.*

On Sept. 20, the Obama Administration unveiled its plan to cut the deficit by \$3 trillion over the next 10 years. The proposal includes \$27 billion in cuts to the military health care package and a proposal that could be expected to cut even more from the military retirement system.

First, the Administration proposes establishing a \$200-per-person annual enrollment fee for TRICARE For Life beginning FY2013. The proposal would tie this to some unspecified health cost index so that it would increase every year after that.

Second, it proposes changing TRICARE pharmacy copays to bring them more in line with federal civilian coverage:

- Retail Generic: Change copay from a flat \$5 to 10% of DoD Rx cost in FY13 and raise that to 20% of Rx cost in outyears
- Retail Brand Name: Change copay from \$12 to 15% of DoD Rx cost in FY13 and subsequently to 30% of Rx cost
- Mail-order Brand Name: Raise copay from current \$12 to \$20 in FY13 and subsequently to \$40
- Mail-order Non-formulary: Raise copay from current \$25 to \$35 in FY13 and subsequently to \$40

Finally, the Administration calls for a DoD BRAC-style commission to recommend "modernizing" the military retirement system. The commission proposal would have to get an up-or-down vote by Congress, without any amendment options.

The language in the Administration plan makes it clear that the intent of these initiatives is to generate large savings by making the military healthcare and retirement system more like civilian plans. This shows a shocking insensitivity to the radical difference between military and civilian careers and the reasons why these military programs were built.

The whole purpose of the unique military retirement and healthcare package is to offset the extraordinary demands and sacrifices inherent in a service career. They were built to provide a powerful incentive for top-quality people to serve 20-30 years in uniform, despite the kind of hardships imposed on troops and families over the last 10 years of war.

Why endure that if the reward is a benefit package similar to that provided civilians who don't bear any such burden of arduous and extended sacrifice?

If the Administration and Defense Department won't make the case to protect current and future military members, families, retirees, and survivors in these tough budget times, MOAA certainly intends to.

Now is the time for all MOAA members to mobilize. Please urge your officer friends to join MOAA and start actively working to protect their interests and those of the current and future force.

This isn't just about equity. It's about an attack on the core elements that sustain the quality career force that protects our national security.

Any who continue to sit on the sidelines jeopardize their own interests, the military community's, and the nation's future capability to sustain a strong national defense.

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## ► **BRINGING THEM HOME**

### **REMAINS OF 3 GI'S MISSING SINCE 1969 IDENTIFIED**

The Pentagon announced on October 3 that it had identified the remains of three soldiers who had been missing in action for more than 40 years. The soldiers were identified as:

- Master Sgt. Charles V. Newton of Canadian, Texas.
- Sgt. 1st Class Douglas E. Dahill of Lima, Ohio.
- Sgt. 1st Class Charles F. Prevedel of St. Louis.

The soldiers went missing April 17, 1969, after being ambushed while on a reconnaissance patrol in Quang Nam province, Vietnam, near the Laos border. Search and rescue teams searched the site but did not find signs of the men during a one-week operation.

Joint U.S. and Vietnam teams, led by the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC), interviewed witnesses, investigated leads, and excavated the site associated with the ambush between 1990 and 1993. In 2003, some of the recovered remains were identified as those of Prevedel. Joint U.S.-Vietnam teams returned to the site in 2006 and 2007 and recovered more remains and military equipment.

The soldiers were interred as a group at Arlington. Newton also was individually identified and will be interred individually at Arlington on Wednesday.

### **AIR FORCE PILOT MISSING FROM VIETNAM WAR IDENTIFIED**

The Department of Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office announced September 1 that the remains of a serviceman missing in action from the Vietnam War have been identified and returned to his family for burial with full military honors.

Air Force Maj. Thomas E. Reitmann of Red Wing, Minn., was buried September 8 in Arlington National Cemetery.

In 1965, Reitmann was assigned to the 334th Tactical Fighter Squadron deployed out of Seymour-Johnson Air Force Base, N.C., to Takhli Air Base, Thailand. On Dec 1, 1965, he was flying a strike mission as the No. 3 aircraft in a flight of four F-105D Thunderchiefs as part of Operation Rolling Thunder. His target was a railroad bridge located about 45 nautical miles northeast of Hanoi. As the aircrew approached the target area, they encountered extremely heavy and accurate anti-aircraft artillery. While attempting to acquire his target and release his ordnance, Reitmann received a direct hit and crashed in Lang Son Province, North Vietnam. Other pilots in the flight observed no parachute, and no signals or emergency beepers were heard. Because of the intense enemy fire in the area, a search-and-rescue team was not able to survey the site and a two-day electronic search found no sign of the aircraft or Reitmann.

In 1988, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam repatriated remains to the United States believed to be those of Reitmann. The remains were later identified as those of another American pilot who went missing in the area on the same day as Reitmann.

Between 1991 and 2009, joint U.S.-S.R.V. teams, led by JPAC, analyzed numerous leads, interviewed villagers, and attempted to locate the aircraft. Although no evidence of the crash site was found, in 2009 and 2011 a local farmer turned over remains and a metal button he claimed to have found in his corn field.

Among other forensic identification tools and circumstantial evidence, scientists from the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory also used mitochondrial DNA—which matched that of his brother—in the identification of Reitmann's remains.

## **MISSING VIETNAM WAR AIRMAN IDENTIFIED**

The Department of Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office announced October 18 that the remains of a U.S. serviceman, missing in action from the Vietnam War, have been identified and will be returned to his family for burial with full military honors.

Air Force Capt. Thomas E. Clark, 29, of Emporium, Pa. will be buried Oct. 22 in his hometown. On February 8, 1969, Clark was attacking an anti-aircraft artillery position in Savannakhet Province, Laos, when his F-100D Super Sabre aircraft was struck by enemy fire and crashed. Three other American pilots on the mission did not see a parachute or any other signs of Clark. Immediate search and rescue missions were not able to locate the crash site.

In 1991, and again in 1992, joint U.S./Lao People's Democratic Republic (L.P.D.R.) teams investigated the area of the crash and recovered aircraft wreckage and military equipment. The teams also conducted interviews with locals who reported witnessing the crash. Local Laotians gave the investigators two military identification tags that identified Clark, and human remains, which had been recovered from the site shortly after the crash. In 2009, an additional excavation of the site recovered dental remains which also helped to identify Clark.

## **SOLDIER MISSING FROM KOREAN WAR IDENTIFIED**

The Department of Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office announced on October 18 that the remains of a U.S. serviceman, missing in action from the Korean War, have been identified and will be returned to his family for burial with full military honors.

Private First Class Henry L. Gustafson, 18, of Cook Ill., will be buried Oct. 22 in West Lebanon, Ind. In late Nov., 1950, Gustafson was assigned to 31st Regimental Combat Team in North Korea, when the division came under attack near Kaljon-ri, near the Chosin Reservoir. The unit was forced to withdraw to a more defensible

position near Hagaru-ri, south of the reservoir. Private First Class Gustafson was taken as a prisoner of war by the Communist Forces. After the 1953 armistice, a surviving POW confirmed that Private First Class Gustafson had been captured by enemy forces, and died from lack of medical care in captivity shortly after being captured.

Between 1991 and 1994, North Korea gave the United States 208 boxes of remains believed to contain the remains of 200-400 U.S. servicemen. In the late 1990s and early 2000s, additional human remains were recovered by joint U.S./Democratic People's Republic of Korea teams in North Korea. From these remains the Department was able to identify the remains of Private First Class Gustafson through DNA testing.

## **AIRCREW MISSING IN ACTION FROM WWII IDENTIFIED**

The Department of Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office (DPMO) announced on October 20 that the remains of 10 U.S. servicemen, missing in action from World War II, have been identified and are being returned to their families for burial with full military honors.

Army Air Forces 2nd Lt. Robert R. Bishop, 24, of Joliet, Ill.; 2nd Lt. Thomas Digman, Jr., 24, of Pittsburgh; 2nd Lt. Donald W. Hess, 28, of Sioux City, Iowa; 2nd Lt. Arthur W. Luce, 24, of Fort Bragg, Calif.; Staff Sgt. Joseph J. Karaso, 21, of Philadelphia; Staff Sgt. Ralph L. McDonald, 22, of East Point, Ga.; Sgt. John P. Bonnassiolle, 20, of Oakland, Calif.; Sgt. James T. Blong, 19, of Port Washington, Wis.; Sgt. Michael A. Chiodo, 22, of Cleveland; and Sgt. John J. Harringer, Jr., 20, of South Bend, Ind., will be buried as a group, in a single casket representing the entire crew, on Oct. 26, in Arlington National Cemetery near Washington, D.C. Hess and Karaso will be interred individually at the same ceremony in Arlington.

On April 29, 1944, the 10 airmen were ordered to carry out a bombing mission over Berlin, Germany, in their B-24J Liberator aircraft, piloted by Bishop and Luce. German documents captured after the war noted that the aircraft crashed near the town of East Meitze, Germany, and there were no survivors. German forces buried the remains of Digman, Blong, and one unknown airman in a cemetery near Hannover, Germany, around the time of the crash. In 1946, the Army Graves Registration Service exhumed the remains of the three individuals for identification and reburied them in a U.S. Military Cemetery in Condroz, Belgium.

In 2003, a German national located the site of the crash and recovered human remains, which were turned over to U.S. officials. In 2005, a Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) team excavated the crash site and gathered additional human remains, military equipment, and metal identification tags for Bishop, Blong, Bonnassiolle, and Harringer. The team also recovered a class ring with the initials AWL – presumably belonging to Luce. In 2007, a JPAC team completed the site excavation and found additional evidence that helped to confirm the identity of the crew.

Among other forensic identification tools and circumstantial evidence, scientists from JPAC and the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory used dental analysis and mitochondrial DNA—which matched that of some of the crewmembers' families—in the identification of their remains

Of the 16 million Americans who served in World War II, more than 400,000 died. At the end of the war, the U.S. government was unable to recover and identify approximately 79,000 Americans. Today, more than 73,000 remain unaccounted-for from the conflict.

## **U.S.-NORTH KOREA CONCLUDE POW/MIA TALKS**

The Department of Defense announced today that the United States and Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) officials reached an arrangement to resume recovering the remains of American servicemen missing from the Korean War.

The three-day talks held in Bangkok were led by Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for POW/Missing Personnel Affairs Robert J. Newberry. His negotiating team included representatives from across the Department of Defense, the Department of State, the U.S. Pacific Command and the United Nations Command-Korea.

The arrangement calls for U.S. teams to work in two areas in North Korea—Unsan County, about 60 miles north of Pyongyang, and near the Chosin/Jangjin Reservoir—where more than 2,000 soldiers and Marines are believed to be missing. The arrangement includes details on logistics and matters that will ensure the effectiveness and safety of remains recovery teams operating in the DPRK. Accounting for Americans missing in action is a stand-alone humanitarian matter, not tied to any other issue between the two countries.

The operations in North Korea are expected to begin next year and will mark the first since 2005, when the U.S. halted missions due to increased tensions on the Korean Peninsula. Prior to that time, U.S. specialists from the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command conducted operations in that country for 10 years, recovering remains believed to be more than 225 servicemen since 1996.

## **RESEARCHERS SEEK CLUES TO COMBAT STRESS**

Washington, D.C. (July 12, 2011) - A study led by Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) researchers found that aging Veterans who earned the Purple Heart show decreased mortality compared with those who had not earned the medal. Additionally, those war-wounded Veterans who survive into later life—especially those who do not develop posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD)—may provide valuable clues as to the factors that lead to resilience to combat stress.

A team of VA researchers who studied more than 10,000 Veterans of World War II and the Korean War produced these findings, which appear online in the journal "Depression and Anxiety." Among the older Veterans we studied, those with Purple Heart citations had half the mortality rate of those without Purple Heart citations," said lead author Tim Kimbrell, MD, a physician-researcher with the Center for Mental Health and Outcomes Research, based at the Central Arkansas Veterans Healthcare System.

Whether the Purple Heart holders had chronic PTSD or not, they were about twice as likely to still be alive after some 10 years of follow-up, compared with those with no Purple Heart and no PTSD. The study included Veterans who were 65 and older in the late 1990s. It tracked their survival through 2008.

It is estimated that more than a million Servicemembers received a Purple Heart in World War II, and nearly 119,000 in the Korean War. In recent years, researchers with VA and the Department of Defense have sought insight into the psychological and neurobiological factors that enable some Servicemembers to not develop PTSD after traumatic events.

The authors of the new VA study say Purple Heart holders who survive long past their war experience without PTSD may be the ideal population on which to focus such research.

"Our theory was that there are many factors that contribute to resilience to PTSD, and these same factors may increase survival," said Kimbrell.

The researchers were surprised to find that among Purple Heart recipients, those with PTSD had slightly lower mortality than those without PTSD. This is a contradiction to several studies that have shown a link between chronic stress conditions such as PTSD and worse survival. Kimbrell and colleagues suggest this finding is due to what they term "early attrition." Those who had been physically injured in World War II or Korea and



suffered PTSD may have been less likely to survive until age 65 in the first place; the PTSD-Purple Heart group included in their study may have been an exceptionally healthy and hearty cohort of Veterans.

The researchers say further studies involving these Veterans, as well as those who were wounded in combat but did not develop PTSD, may lead to new insights to help prepare future Servicemembers to cope with the stress and trauma of war.

Kimbrell, in addition to his VA role, is also a professor at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences. He collaborated on the study with other authors from his site, as well as with colleagues from the Houston Center for Quality of Care and Utilization Studies, at the Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center; Baylor College of Medicine; the Ralph H. Johnson VA Medical Center in Charleston, SC; the Medical University of South Carolina; and the University of Texas Health Science Center.

For more information on VA research, visit [www.research.va.gov](http://www.research.va.gov).

## **JPAC BREAKS GROUND ON NEW FACILITY**

The Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command “broke ground” on a multi-million dollar facility during a Groundbreaking and Blessing Ceremony on August 30, near the Kuntz Gate on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

Senator Daniel Inouye was among several other dignitaries invited to ceremoniously “break ground” on the site for the new facility that will further enhance the Department of Defense’s mission to account for its missing U.S. personnel.

Falling directly under the U.S. Pacific Command, JPAC is a jointly-manned organization of more than 400 military and civilian specialists that has, with its predecessor organizations, investigated and recovered missing Americans since the 1970s.

The ultimate goal of JPAC, and of the agencies involved in returning America’s heroes home, is to achieve the fullest possible accounting of Americans lost during the nation’s past conflicts.

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## **► EVENTS**

### **VETERANS HOMECOMING WEEK IN BRANSON America's Largest Veterans Day Celebration November 5 -11, 2011**

America's largest Veterans Day celebration, "Veterans Homecoming Week," takes place in Branson, November 5-11 every year. This seven day tribute includes many special events, many of which are free and all of which present patriotic salutes to Veterans.

#### **2011 Homecoming Week Notes:**

- An “All-American Lunch” is served daily from Nov. 6-10 at Factory Merchants Branson (Red Roof Mall). This is free to veterans and active duty personnel. Meals are sponsored by Steve’s Treehouse.

- Registry and BVTF Tactical Operation Center (TOC) will be at Factory Merchants Branson from 9 a.m-4 p.m. Get your name in the Branson Veterans Task Force Registry. There is no charge for registration.
- Reveille and Retreat will be held each day, Sunday through Thursday, at Factory Merchants Branson by Dress Barn.
- Veterans' stories are needed. The Branson Veterans History Project, as a partner with the Library of Congress American Folklore Center, is videotaping for future generations the personal stories of veterans of all branches and eras by appointment. There is no fee; veterans can receive a copy at a nominal price to cover administration fees. Call Dick Erickson at 417-231-3866.

See details at [http://www.explorebranson.com/veterans/?gclid=CMK-sK2b\\_asCFQJUgwodJFkGmQ](http://www.explorebranson.com/veterans/?gclid=CMK-sK2b_asCFQJUgwodJFkGmQ)

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## ► SICK CALL

**Art Bennett**, RFTW and PGR brother (NAVY Swift boat, Vietnam) may be having another battle with throat cancer. Let's send out thoughts and prayers so he can win this battle.

**John "Hardcharger" Barker** had back surgery in September. He recovered nicely and is back riding.

**Alton Howard**, one of the fuelers on the Southern Route went down on the way to the SR Reunion in Kerrville. He had 8 broken ribs, a broken shoulder, and broken elbow all on the right side and some road rash. While in the hospital he decided to get up on his own and while standing by his bed fell to the floor and broke his nose. But he's recovering and said he'll fueling again next May from RC to DC.

**E.R. ("Wingman")** was in the hospital in ICU in August, not doing well. Please pray for him as he goes through this trying time. ER and Glennis ("Waffelmaker") were unable to go on RFTW the past couple of years due to health issues, but they were actively involved for many, many years. These are two really wonderful RFTW family members. Please remember them in your prayers.

**Big E** thanks all who were there for him me during the recovery from my accident that happened on my way home from DC there are several people that I would like to thank publicly. The first one is Hawk, I will never be able to repay this guy for what he did for me coming from NC to WV where I was in the hospital and my bike was at the tow place he got my Bike and trailer and loaded it and transported me from WV to KS. The people from CMA MC across the country they have called me and they have come to my house and have prayed with me helping keep my spirits up I am grateful for the support I am in need of more support I have had three surgeries in three different hospitals and the medical insurance is not covering all the medical bills and I am unable to work at this time. We are planning a benefit poker run here is a copy of the flyer if you cannot attend the run you may send donations to the address on the flyer and any donation would be greatly appreciated.

Broken Right Arm, Broken Left Thumb, and Shattered Right Ankle. I am healing ok it is going to take some more time.

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## ► TAPS

**Mark Simone** succumbed to terminal cancer during the evening of August 3rd. For the past several years, Mark was at the Day One starting point in Rancho Cucamonga at 0400 hours to help set up coffee or donuts, and to take lots and lots of photos of the morning's organized chaos. His pain has ended ... ours will continue for a while, to be softened by the memories of his smile and of his laughter.

Mark's last "Run" was an escape from his captors so that he could attend the Tuesday dinner and the Wednesday morning activity of RFTW Day One ... but this year from his wheelchair. Mark, and his friends, knew he was dying. But his infectious charm and raucous laughter couldn't help but allow us all to smile for yet another day in his presence.

Years ago, Mark was asked if he had served in our military ... if he was a vet. He should have known better, given the kind of friends he was with at the time, but his answer was "No, but I'm a supporter!" Mark's road name, from that day forward and worn proudly on his vest, became JOCKSTRAP.

We love you Mark. We always will.  
From Jim "The Mayor" Frost:

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## ► CLOSING THOUGHTS

There is a common bond that exists between veterans. It's a bond of friendship, brotherhood, and solidarity that civilians might not understand. It's our shared experience, a sense of duty and love of our country. We have chosen to serve to maintain our freedom and our way of life for our children and all the children in America. We love this country with all its splendor, majesty and even problems. It is our country ... right or wrong. We must never forget our fallen comrades who paid the ultimate price for our freedom and our missing in action. They are our real heroes. It is a privilege and honor to serve our country. Perhaps General Douglas MacArthur said it best in his final speech at West Point --- DUTY ---HONOR --- COUNTRY.

*Written by Gene McLeod, VFW Post 6899, Austin, TX*

"You look at me with hostility, saying that I am to blame,  
for embarrassing the nation, and bringing it to shame,  
yet you sat at home and popped your pills,  
loving freely, at your will,  
while we defended those freedoms, on some distant, bloody hill.

We only did the duty that our Country asked we do.  
We only did what we were told, with thoughts it was for you.  
We held this Country in our hearts. As we watched our Brothers die.  
We vowed our dedication, and we held our heads up high.

But you forget who gave their blood, so you could speak your mind.  
And you forget, the families, we were asked to leave behind,  
who were also those we battled for, we cherished, in our chore.  
So tell me now, tell them, indeed, Who harmed our Country more?"

*Written by an anonymous Vietnam vet.*

## *You Are Not Forgotten*



### **TO SUBSCRIBE TO A MAILED COPY OF THE NEWSLETTER:**

#### **APPLICATION FOR NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION**

The RFTW newsletter is published in January, April, July, and October. If you would like to have printed copies of the newsletter mailed to you, a one-year subscription is \$10, which covers the cost of printing and mailing. If you subscribe or renew by October 31 you will receive all four issues for that year. If you renew between October 31 and January 1, your subscription will begin with the January issue of the next year.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ 2011

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AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ FOR 1 YEAR \_\_\_\_\_ 2 YEARS \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail this form with your check or money order (made payable to Run For The Wall) to Judy Lacey, 4249 Comstock Drive, Lake Havasu City, AZ 86406.