NEWSLETTER

Nathan Henry Dies - Red Warrior POW

Survivor of July 12, 1967 battle and imprisonment dies in hometown of Franklin, North Carolina

We sadly learned of the passing of Nathan (Nat) Henry. Nat died on Monday, January 11.

Henry, along with Red Warriors, Martin Frank, Cordine McMurray, Richard Perricone, Stanley Newell, James Schiele and James Van Bendegom, was captured during the horrific July 12,1967 Bravo Company battle. Van Bendegom and Schiele died in captivity. The remaining Red Warriors were released in March of 1973. (*See Red Warrior POW webpage for details.*)

Henry, 68, has been recognized for his outstanding service and valor to the United States of America by being awarded two Silver Stars, two Bronze Stars, two Purple Hearts with Oak Leaf Clusters, including the Presidential Citation, and numerous other medals. In October 18, 2012, the state of North Carolina named the bridge on the 441 by-pass in Henry's honor. He also served as a charter member of the Macon County Vietnam Veterans Chapter 994 and has served two terms as president and chairman of the board of directors.



Nat Henry, 1967



Nat Henry, 1947 -2016

Funeral Services will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday, January 17, in the Chapel of Macon Funeral Home. Rev. Guy Duvall will officiate. Burial will be in the Burningtown Baptist Church Cemetery with full military rites conducted by the Fort Bragg U.S. Army military detail.

Henrys full obituary, condolences and tributes may be accessed on the Macon Funeral Home website.

Full obituary and condolences link

Reunion Plans Well Underway

San Diego Reunion Offers Side Trip Attractions



It is less than a year away, but the three-day 2016 Red Warrior Vietnam Association reunion is set to go for October 10-12, 2016 in beautiful San Diego, California. It will be our first west coast reunion and we are looking forward to seeing some new faces in San Diego.

50th ANNIVERSARY - It's hard to believe, but 2016 will mark fifty

years that the Red Warriors first came ashore in Vietnam! For our special 50th we will be staying at the lovely Sheraton San Diego Hotel & Marina. There is plenty of time for you to plan but we need early registrations in order to meet Hotel deposit requirements. So sign up now! Your reunion adventure starts by going to our <u>Registration</u> Information Page.

Reunion Side Trips

Visit the USS Midway Aircraft carrier - a historic floating museum you won't want to miss.

Or how about visiting Seaport Village, the gathering place for shopping, sipping wine or a cup of gourmet coffee, light snacking, or fine dining.

The Hornblower Cruise is your way to step out on a private ship that will float by 50 landmarks.

Explore on your own at the famous San Diego Zoo, Sea World, and Old Town San Diego.

Full details of your reunion side trips are explained on our reunion Registration page!

Our website has all the information about our California reunion

There, you will also find the <u>registration form</u>, detailed information about the reunion, the hotel amenities and, for the first time, information on special optional tours.

Need Financial Assistance? See Reunion Information Page for information on how to apply for <u>assistance</u>.



See who has signed up

Bob Harik searches for our fallen Red Warriors



Bob Harik resides with his wife in Yuba City, California



Over the last two years Bob Harik of Yuba City, California has been searching for photos of our Red Warrior casualties. Who is Bob Harik? Bob, who is an octogenarian, is in the Guiness Book of Records as having golfed two holes-in-ones on the same day. Bob served in the U.S. Coast Guard and Merchant Marines and has taken it upon himself to search for photos of Vietnam era organizations. He began with the 4th Battalion 42nd Field Artillery Regiment (Straight Arrows) and noticed that 1/12th Red Warriors killed in action kept appearing in his research. He then realized that B Battery of the 4/42nd served as support for our Red Warrior units in the Central Highlands. Soon after he contacted, us he began sending photos of our 1/12th casualties. To date, Bob has discovered well over one hundred photographs.

He will go to great lengths to find a missing photo. Bob has spent over a year trying to find a photograph of one particular fallen Red Warrior. He searches multiple sources in his quest. It is not uncommon for Bob to be on the phone contacting relatives, funeral homes, and schools, or following up with web memorial tributes and searching Ancestry.com.

Bob continues his research for missing photos of our twenty-six Vietnam Red Warriors killed in action. Photos of these heroes are getting more difficult to find but he is not giving up. Putting a face to the individual casualty pages of our fallen brothers has been a long time goal for many Red Warriors involved with our website. Bob has done a lot of the hard work for us. Thanks, Bob, for your hard quest.

The remaining missing photos

A Company

Heriberto Romero-Oyola 5/31/67 Douglas Smith 5/4/68

B Company

James Harris 12/20/66 Bobby Waddel 12/20/66 Moses Williams 7/12/67 Emory Illinois 8/26/67 Dana Roesner 3/2/68 Raymond Bethea 3/9/69 Clarence Nofford 3/9/69 Julius Mitchell 3/10/69 C Company

Istvan Szabo 9/21/66 Jimmie Jones 5/30/67 Gerald Pina 1/11/68 Irving Pierce 2/11/68 Albert Maldonado-Lluberas 2/23/70

D Company

Isaac Huffman 10/11/67 Kenneth Tappe 10/31/67 Rufus Henderson 3/20/68

E Company

Ananias Boyd 5/29/68

HHC (includes Medics assigned to company's) Alfred Ellis 5/30/67 Tyrone Combs 7/12/67

4/42nd Artillery Gary Darrah 6/01/68 Robert Graham 6/01/68 Joseph King Jr 6/01/68

4th Engineers Homer Lee 3/10/69



View CASUALTY PHOTOGRAPHS ON OUR WEBSITE

Funny stories from the field

Humor in Vietnam? Yes, not all of our time in Vietnam was fearful. There were moments of laughter with oddball situations and events that brought smiles to our faces. Did you know our website has a section of humorous stories from our fellow Red Warriors? Check it out on our <u>On the Lighter Side</u> webpage. If you have a funny story to tell, please send it to <u>Jim</u> <u>Daniels</u>. We would love to add it to our collection.

Here's one contribution to *On the Lighter Side* from Red Warrior Richard Bernier, 2nd Platoon, C Company 68-69.

"One day we surrounded a Montagnard village. As I'm sure you know, some villages were really nice and well cared for. This village was deplorable, a lot of sickness and bad conditions. We set up a perimeter and then S4 and S3 came in. They cared for the children and older people. I think we were there for about a week. One day they set up a movie screen. They brought in a generator and intended to show us a cowboy movie staring John Wayne, and the plot involved the Calvary fighting Indians. (Only the army could think of this one) The movie was to be shown in shifts and I was on the first shift. So here's the situation. A bunch of us, along with a lot of children, were sitting in the front row. All of the Montagnard men were standing just behind us with their spears, bows and arrows ready. It was just dusk and the movie started. I personally thought this was nuts. Can you imagine a movie screen shinning in the middle of the jungle and speakers blaring? Anyway, the movie starts and it wasn't long before the Calvary was being attacked by the Indians. Now the camera view in this scene was such that the Indians, who were charging on horses, appeared to run right over top of the camera. Well this caused such a stir that the Yard men became very excited. The next thing that happened was a barrage of spears and arrows flying through the movie screen. They tore it to shreds. Of course, with no screen, that was the end of the movie. We had fours and fives

that day so the only thing we could do was drink and laugh our butts off. It was the funniest thing I ever saw in Nam."

Richard Bernier - C Company, 2nd Platoon 1968-69



Did you know? - We have a recording of an actual firefight

Our Website has an actual recording of radio traffic during a Red Warrior firefight. Charlie Company was hit by sniper fire on April 24, 1969. Back at firebase, LZ Dot, an artilleryman in the CP recorded the radio traffic on an old audiocassette recorder. The recording is over thirty minutes long. It has been edited to six

minutes but the thirty-two minute version is also on the website. To listen, visit our <u>Combat Radio</u>



Thanks to PFC Jerry E. Grewahn, Mortar Platoon, C Company 1969 who obtained the recording, and to Sgt Mike Gowan, C Company 1969, for brining it to our attention.



Our Photo Archives have had over 1.8 million views!



Have you visited our Photo Archives? We have over one thousand photos from Red Warriors who have donated their collections for us to see. Photos are categorized by Company and events, such as our various reunions through the years.

Perhaps you can find a buddy and look at his collection. You may even see a photo of yourself or a friend! The collection is easily accessed through our webpage by clicking the "Photo Archive" menu button on the left side of the home page. Click the "flickr" button. It will take you to our <u>collections</u> where you can select the company or album that you are interested in. The names of donors are listed alphabetically by company and are accessed by clicking their folders. It's all pretty easy once you visit the page. If you wish to have your photos shown in our collection, follow the instructions on the <u>Photo Archive</u> page. Share history...we'd love to see your pictures.



NEED HELP? - NEW TO US? - CONTACT US!

IF YOU NEED TO CONTACT US, PLEASE REFERENCE AND CONTACT THE VOLUNTEERS BELOW

flickr

ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

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Red Warrior Map page has more than just maps

Did you ever wonder where you were in the field? So did Red Warrior, Jim Daniels, C Company, 2nd platoon, 1969-70. He recalls, *"For over thirty plus years I always wanted to know exactly where I was in relationship to Camp Enari, the Cambodian border, and certain LZs. Finally, the internet allowed me to find out."*

For over six months, Daniels gathered maps and identified grid coordinates for LZs. The end result was our <u>Red Warrior Map page</u>.

"If you remember an LZ you were at, it will be on the map page." said Daniels.

The map page also has topics on:

How to Rad a Map Map Prefex's LZs and FSB's by year LZs alphabetically Map sheets vs sections Links to download maps

Daniels related, "After I identified a few key locations, I was amazed at the amount of area that we covered in the field. We humped a lot of territory! The discovery of specific maps put to rest my nagging question of where I was those many years ago."

Remember these little S.O.B.'s?



Leeches.

Well what a dumb question. If you were in the field, of course you remember these little beauties. Some guys seemed to attract them more than others but we now know that leeches are attracted to heat and not "smell."

A good sprinkling of salt ate through these little buggers, the easiest way to remove them.



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The Entire Map page collection is viewable on the Red Warriors <u>Map page</u>, or is available for purchase on CD from our <u>Shop the PX page</u>.

Right: Acting 2nd Platoon Sgt, Jim Daniels, C Company 1969

