

\* Joseph A Aguirre \* Richard C Babb \* Steven Collier \* Jerry D Copeland \* John F Crikelair \* Donald A Davis \*

# the POINTMAN Newsletter - April '94

A Publication of Company F 50th (Inf) LRP / 75th (Inf) Ranger

TRAVEL TO FARAWAY PLACES...  
ENJOY EXOTIC CUISINE...MAKE  
NEW FRIENDS...AND KILL THEM.  
FIREBASE MOTOWN • LZ HAPPY  
VALLEY • KILL ZONE • PUNJI PIT •  
POW • MIA • KIA • GI IS No. 1 • VC  
IS No. 10 • JAF • REMF • FNG • TET •  
HOT LZ • POP A SMOKE • TAKE  
THE POINT • HANOI HILTON •  
HANOI HANNA • HANOI JANE •  
HOOCH • ZIPPO RAID • SEARCH  
& DESTROY • ZAP & ZIP • BAG &  
TAG • ASS & TRASH • CLICKS &  
MIKES • BEANS & DCKS • C-RATS •  
TUNNEL RATS • RIVER RATS •  
PBR • PRU • SEARCH & AVOID •  
ARVN • NVA • KHMER ROUGE •  
PATHET LAO • MONTAGNARDS •  
MAC-V • SOG • PHOENIX • CIA • AIR  
AMERICA • YANKEE STATION •  
CAG • CAP • DOUBLE UGLY • BUF •  
ARC LIGHT • ROLLING THUNDER •  
NAPALM • DAISY CUTTER • ZUNI •  
ZOOMIE • TONKIN GULF YACHT  
CLUB • IA DRANG HEALTH CLUB •  
RIO • RTO • GRUNTS • HUMPIN'  
THE BOONIES • LRRP • OVER THE  
FENCE • HO CHI MINH TRAIL •  
HAIPHONG HARBOR • BEN GOI •

CAM RANH BAY • VAN FONG BAY •  
MEKONG DELTA • SOUTH CHINA  
SEA • REPOSE • SANCTUARY • SO  
THAT OTHERS MAY LIVE • EVAC •  
DUST-OFF • GORK • GLAD BAGS •  
MASS-CAL • MFW • GSW • T & T •  
SURGICAL T • TRIAGE • PRE-OP  
POST-OP • R & R • CHINA BEACH •  
SAMESIDE STATESIDE • FREEDOM  
BIRD • DEROS • LAND OF THE BIG  
PX • THE WORLD • MARS • AFVN •  
APO • APC • DEUCE & A HALF • SKY  
CRANE • CHINOOK • SLICK • HUEY •  
COBRA • LOASH • JOLLY GREEN •  
AIR CAV • SCREAMING EAGLES •  
HAWKS & DOVES • TURTLES •  
TRACERS • TRIP WIRE • BOUNCING  
BETTY • CLAYMORE • FRAG • FLAK  
JACKET • FULL METAL JACKET •  
M16 • AK47 • FRIENDLY FIRE • FIRE  
IN THE HOLE • DIDI • DINK • GOOKS  
AT THE WIRE • SAPPER ON THE  
COMPOUND • RPG • LAW • LIFER •  
LOTTERY • SELECTIVE SERVICE •  
DRAFT CARD • 1A • 4F • FIFO • FILO  
LIFO • LILO • JFK • LBJ • DICK NIXON  
BEFORE HE DICKS YOU • HENRY  
KISSINGER • LE DUC THO • PARIS  
PEACE TALKS • VIETNAMIZATION •

UNCLE HO • COL. TOON • GEN.  
GIAP • GEN. WESTMORELAND •  
GEN. ABRAMS • GENERAL TIRE •  
MICHELIN • SINCLAIR • CINCPAC •  
SIN CITY • AN KHE • KHE SANH •  
HUE • PHU BAI • CHU LAI • MY LAI •  
QUI NHON • DA LAT • DA NANG •  
NHA TRANG • QUANG NGAI •  
QUANG TRI • KONTUM • PKEIKU •  
PLEI KO BO • PHUOC BINH • BINH  
DINH • BIEN DIEN PHU • PHU DUC •  
BUYAM PHUC • BAN ME THUOT •  
SAIGON • GIA DINH • GIA LONG  
PALACE • DUONG TU DO • TAN  
SON NHUT • NGO DINH DIEM •  
NGO DINH NHU • NGUYEN CAO  
KY • NGUYEN VAN THIEU • BIG  
MINH • CHARLIE • NOBODY LIKES  
TO BE SCREWED BY A CROOKED  
DICK • FIREBASE JIGSAW • LZ LAST  
CHANCE • KITTY HAWK • BOAT  
PEOPLE • PHILIPPINE ISLANDS •  
HONG KONG • THAILAND • USA •  
AGENT ORANGE • BAD PAPER •  
PTSSD • VA • VFW • VIETNOW • SKY  
HOOK I & II • THE WALL • NEVER  
LET THEM FORGET • HELP BRING  
THEM HOME • WELCOME HOME •  
IT DON'T MEAN NOTHIN' • J. CRILLY

Gregory R Kelly \* Milan L Lee \* Charles D Macken \* Donald R Mayberry \* Gary R McFall \* Brian K McGar \* Douglas R Pollock \* Robert B Pritchard \* Charles R Rogerson

Dwayne A De Vega \* Mack Dennard Jr \* Joseph E Fitzgerald \* Carl D Flowers \* Alvin W Floyd \* Howard B Handley \* Kenneth Harjo \* Earnest Heard Jr \* John A Jaccovac

\* Raymond W Sullivan \* Michael F Thomas \* Robert C Thompson \* Donald W Tinney \* Arthur Tomaszek \* John H White \*

'Yo Guys!

Yep, I know it's been a while since we put out a newsletter . . . now you know my weakness, I'm a procrastinator! Lot's of stuff has happened and a lot of stuff is getting ready to happen so, hang on to your hats and get ready to order your plane tickets!

Ran into Joe Cassily in San Antonio last fall. Planning ahead I decided to clean out my trunk to make room for his chair - was a waste of time though, I could barely keep up with him. Got a note from Anthony Izzi (one of our Korean War Era Rangers), as you will see a bit later in the N/L, you just can't keep good men down . . .

Mrkvicka (NVUB96A), Rich Martin (NVEV95A), Richard Reader (XHWK71A), Roy Boatman (XMMP18A), and I (SCBU05A) are all members of PRODIGY On-Line Service. I use it primarily to send/receive files, messages, and E-Mail. I also use Compuserve Bruce Craft (73532, 730), and I (73743,1746) also use Compuserve, or you can FAX Bruce at (305) 655-3365. Joe Stevens is on some InterGalactic on-line service ("InterNet" I think).

Don't want to rattle on about computer stuff, but for those of you with those little magic boxes on your desk (with a modem), it's a great way to communicate. It's a lot less expensive than a phone call, and much faster and more reliable than the US Postal Service. It's also a good way to send text files of your letters, articles, questions, suggestions, and complaints for the newsletter . . . just something to think about? 'Couple of us have fax/modems too . . . Tom Fevurly's (FAX) is (816) 542-3416. Mine is (512) 326-5246 but I don't leave it on all the time, so, if you need to fax me something call me at (512) 326-1725 and I'll flip it on for you.

Got two opportunities to see each other this year. At "the Wall" on Memorial Day and Fort Benning for the Reunion. About the Wall, if you have not been or can not make it to Benning, pencil it in for this year. In addition to me, you will be able to take in all the sights and sounds of a Memorial Day celebration. That's right, I said CELEBRATION! We'll get to see the Woman's Memorial (and maybe get to hug a nurse or Donut Dolly), go to the Wall and, of course, get to see ME! But also, and I think most importantly for the many who were not able to come when we went last year, you get to celebrate getting together with some real VIP's, the guys from F Company!!

**THE BIG REUNION AT BENNING HAS BEEN SCHEDULED FOR AUGUST 24-27TH.** The dates have a lot to do with our Associations ties to the active duty. Until recently I was not aware of all the things they do for us, and they do a lot to get our reunion off the ground. There will be a ton of things to do so, come one come all. Information will be printed later in the N/L so you can make reservations and plans to come. (FYI 78 of us are paid up as of this writing, that's 2nd place in enrollment).

I can tell you, and I will tell you, **LOUD AND CLEAR**, that it doesn't matter whether you were a LRRP, a Ranger, or both. And, at the risk of @\$%! in someone's post toasties, let me say for the record once and for all, **IF YOU'RE ONE OF THOSE GUYS STILL HANGING ON TO THAT, "WELL, I'M A LRRP AND HE'S A RANGER" SH\*T THEN GIVE IT A REST WILL YA?** Jeez, Louise, it's about time we give that up, don't-cha think? Most of that has to do with when we were born rather than being a choice thing! Your only choice now is to stay at home wishing you had, or to get on board and mingle a bit with some of the greatest people on the planet. These are guys (just like you) with that invisible "S" still on their chests 'though the cape might be hidden in the closet, who share different sets of political ideology, race, religion, successes and failures, hopes and dreams, that you stood shoulder to shoulder with in a far away place two and a half decades ago that are just dying to see you. Please come to D.C. or Fort Benning . . . PLEASE COME!

Because I am not the best record keeper in the world, I had purposely omitted thanking people in the newsletter for the monetary support of those who gave their personal funds so we might enjoy the Pointman. At the risk (and embarrassment) of leaving someone out and having to apologize in the next issue, here are the names of those that made this and other issues of the newsletter possible: Ray Armstrong, Jerry Camelleri, Rick Carr, Bruce Craft, Dick Ewald, George Flannery, James Griffith, Ron Harrison, Emmett Hiltibrand, Anthony Izzi, David Jacob, Richard Kauffman, Brad Lanier, Harvey Lindsey, Joe Little, Rich Martin, Bill Mrkvicka, Dan Nate, Roy Nelson, Robert Newsom, Robert Palmer, Charlie Rose, R.W. Sandlin, Norton Singman, Steven Skogrand, Fred Stuckey, and Tim Walsh.

**Gentlemen, I salute you, along with those who have been very free in the offering of both their advice and moral support over the past year and a half.**



# Mail Call

CHRISTMAS 1993

Dave-

Have really enjoyed your publication of the Pointman; here's \$25 for your expenses . . . and please, "Keep up the fire" it's a great morale booster for me and I'm certain all recipients feel the same way. I'm also certain you understand my work schedule (constantly doing more with less in the Army) which prevented me from corresponding as I should.

So, please forgive me for my lack of correspondence, & let me catch you up on the news- This year I have spent three weeks in Korea, seven weeks in Hawaii, one week in California, four in Thailand, and two in Alaska. And if that ain't enough travelin', Merry Anne & I spent two weeks vacation (on a use-it-or-lose-it leave) in Hawaii, Samoa, and Australia. I took the time to re-qualify as an Open Water Scuba Diver and saw some great undersea life while diving. (Everything was just right: warm water, no sharks, but plenty of bikinis!)

The military travel was all warfighting practice except for the trips to California (Disaster Relief Operations) and Thailand: the mission there was to perform 11 Engineer Civic Action Projects (expanding schools, building community centers, and one small dam) and 32 Medical Civic Action Projects. US Army, Navy, Air Force, and Thai physicians and medics conducted these visits to small villages, treating all the diseases you can imagine in astonishing numbers: final count was over 10,800 patients treated, 1875 teeth extracted. Opticians made 564 pairs of glasses, and the vets treated 5500 animals, including six elephants! Speaking of elephants, we had more fun than you can imagine, watching and riding them. We took two days off in the middle of the exercise, while the medical teams were relocating from one side of the country to the other, and drove about an hour north of Chaing Mai towards the Burmese border. The Thais still do a lot of logging up there, and maintain about 75 elephant training schools. They train elephants and use them like tractors (I think of them as a large grey "John Deere" which eats bananas). We went to the best of the schools, where you can ride the students. First, we had the opportunity to feed the critters bananas . . . only I kept my camera, not a banana, in my hand, and photographed this baby elephant

(about 4 ft tall) trumpeting, breaking free of the pack, charging across 40 or 50 meters of intervening ground, and attacking the bananas carried by two females in our group of six . . . which the girls were attempting to hide without success. I have several frames which feature mostly baby elephant after the bananas and real panic on the girls faces as they were doing what I guess was the famous "Gringo Elephant Dance", as I said, to no avail. Later after the handlers demonstrated all the logging work the elephants could do, they let us ride the great beasts TWO HOURS up the trail and back down the river . . . the best time of our trip. Chaing Mai was really great! I didn't go to Bangkok though; just like I don't travel to New York City!

Korea was not nearly so much fun: we were playing war games in an old Japanese bunker from WWII, dug in approximately 50 feet under the ground; the dampness & dirt down in that root cellar was amazing . . . most everyone contracted some type of upper respiratory infection just from breathing. Best part of Korea is that the solution is likely to take place without me there!

Life is peaceful here as we celebrate our one year anniversary in this house. Things are just great!

I beat the third (and last) medical board in March. That means I could theoretically stay on active duty until SERB'ed or RIF'ed, but I'm not waiting for the guillotine to chop my neck. I have requested retirement on 1 Feb 1994. The VA has adjudicated me sufficiently disabled to enter their Vocational Rehabilitation Program; I plan to start school at Pacific Lutheran University, full time, fully funded by the VA, on 2 Feb 94. (The VA will pay for six business courses over a one year period which will update my Masters til I'm competitive in today's market). I will be attending classes at night, with personnel who already have jobs: an excellent source of contacts. Also, the VA will counsel me and assist me in getting a job. Merry Anne & I are both glad to have made the decision to "blow claymores and extract."

Take care, & please write the news. We are looking forward to hearing from you, and to seeing you at the Reunion.

RON & MERRY ANNE (HARRISON)



Dear Dave-

Sorry I took so long to reply to your letter after the Memorial Day reunion here in Washington. I thoroughly enjoyed the short time we spent together and hope that there will be other opportunities in the future.

The 10 months I spent in Company F were very close to the top of my list of rewarding assignments during my 22 years on active duty and that feeling is reinforced by the continued association that you are trying to maintain. The men I served with are all larger than life to me, then and now, and have taken a very special place in my memories.

**"The men I served with  
are larger than life"**

I have never been prouder than to be able to tell friends that I was part of that unit. Like most others who served in Vietnam, I came home a different person. But, I can say, in all honesty, that the person who came back was a much better person for having served with the outstanding officers, NCO's and men of Company F.

Enclosed is a meager check to help support you in your work. I look forward to the next issue of the "Pointman". Again, thats for your great efforts.

Sincerely, Robert L. "Bob" Palmer

**HOW TO JOIN:**

**TREASURER  
75TH RANGER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION  
32104 HUNTLEY CIRCLE  
SALISBURY, MARYLAND 21801  
ANNUAL DUES ARE \$20.00**

**TWENTY-FIFTH INFANTRY DIVISION  
ASSOCIATION  
P.O. BOX 340  
FLOURTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA 19031  
ANNUAL DUES ARE \$15.00**

Dave-

March 7, 1994-Portland, Oregon

First of all, my thanks to you, Bill Mrkvicka and the handful of others for making this organization happen. I'm nervous, yet excited, about the reunion this coming August.

The newsletters have been greatly appreciated, spawning an array of emotions. I've read them from cover to cover, hungry for pieces of information about the guys. I've even talked with a few of them for the first time in 23 years. Once again laughing, crying, and dreaming together.

I know we all intended to see one another when we got home, but somehow it just didn't happen that way for me. Anyway, enough sentimental stuff for now.

Old proverb - "Put money where mouth is" - Here's \$50.00 for help with the newsletter expense. Also, I've got about a hundred photos of the men in Company F from mid '69-70. I'll bring them along with old military newspapers, Tropic Lightning, etc., and just lots of stuff that will be fun to go through.

Bill called me from New York tonight to discuss our up-coming reunion. I'll be helping any way I can here in the Pacific Northwest. I'm really looking forward to seeing you all there - laughing, crying, and dreaming . . .

Thanks again Dave! - David Jacob

**WHERE TO STAY:**

**FOR MEMORIAL DAY AT THE WALL  
HOWARD JOHNSON - NATIONAL AIRPORT  
2650 JEFFERSON DAVIS HIGHWAY  
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22202  
(703) 684-7200**

**FOR THE BIG REUNION AUGUST 24-27TH  
SHERATON INN - COLUMBUS AIRPORT  
5351 SIMONS BOULEVARD  
COLUMBUS, GEORGIA 31904  
(706) 327-6868 GROUP R-75**

Dear Dave - (To All)

Just a short note to bring you up to date. Was in the hospital for 4 days in March for a possible heart attack. After further examination the doctor determined I didn't have a heart, so therefore it must have been one hell of a case of heart burn. Actually he said my heart looked as good as a teenagers. Now I want the rest of the body!

Reunion dates are August 24-27th. Gary Lemonds will be inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame. Plan on being there! This one will be a big one with 50-75 of our Company F guys. Start planning now. Look at car pooling with someone in your area. Think about arriving on Wednesday evening (or late night) and departing on Sunday sometime . . . only two days of work will be missed that way.

Ron Harrison retired, bought a monkey and a vending machine and sells peanuts at the fair. Colin Hall had to have a sex operation and is now the mommy of the family. Rick Benner is still on some form of "Alien Space Adventure" that's so secret he can't even talk to himself about it. Bruce Craft, Fred Houghton, Steve Grzesik and myself have been diagnosed as temporarily/intermittently crazy with PTSD. Sounds bad but now we have a good excuse for our bad manners. When you do something really stupid you just say, "I have PTSD" and people say "OK" and begin looking for the nearest exit . . . they think it's some form of male PMS.

Please plan on coming to the reunion. I live in a house full of women (wife, 2 daughters, 3 female dogs, and a female cat). I need the male bonding. Actually, I lowered the odds when I accidentally ran over the cat in the driveway. I keep trying to get my wife to lay out there but she won't do it. I have a pond and recreation area laid on for the reunion for us to get together and be left alone. If you plan to fly let us know so we can plan on picking you up at the airport. Please attempt to contact two people who have not come to a reunion before and get them to come to this one. That's your mission . . . let me know who you contacted and if you were successful.

Drop a line to Dave Regenthal via the "POINTMAN" and give him the names of all that are confirmed as coming. Also, please try to drop a check for \$20 or \$30 in the letter to help Dave with the cost he has incurred with the cost of publishing the "Pointman". He's running in the red and doing so out of pocket. I'm going down next week to pawn one of my children to send Dave what I can but, doubt I'll get enough to cover the postage to send it.

Dave needs our help. Also, if you can, send the rest of your change to Dick Ewald. He has been able to pay for one of our guys who couldn't afford to come otherwise. I promise you this is one time you will feel good about spending your money for a worthwhile cause. Start looking at car pooling. Tom is trying to get some cots for the Sheraton rooms so we can stack up you guys when you go to sleep and save you money!

For Sheraton Hotel reservations, call (706) 327-6868 and ask for Christine. Tell her you are coming for the Ranger Reunion, give her the dates, give name & address and credit card if you want a guaranteed room. She'll give you a confirmation number. \$45 + tax = \$49.95 per room per night. Double bed and we'll get cots somewhere.

Please drop a short line to Fred - he needs our support. Touch base with Dave and support "the Pointman". Touch base with Dick and help someone who may need our \$\$ help. Think car pool and double bunking. T-Shirt in the works, get Black Berets here, bring blue jeans and shorts. Plan to have the time of your life!

Sua Sponte - Emmett Hiltibrand

**Fred Houghton**  
**Olin Teague VAMC**  
**Domiciliary, Bed AA-233-21**  
**1901 South First Street**  
**Temple, Texas 76504**

**Bill Mrkvicka**  
**26 Pinewood Knoll**  
**Rochester, New York 14624**  
**(716) 247-7257**

**Dave Regenthal**  
**2408-B Burleson Court**  
**Austin, Texas 78741**  
**(512) 326-1725**

**Dick Ewald**  
**Rt 3 Box 476-J**  
**Azle, Texas 76020**  
**(817) 221-3154**

**Tom Cahill**  
**4803 Brindlewood Drive**  
**Columbus, Georgia 31909**  
**(706) 568-6125**

**Emmett Hiltibrand**  
**3056 Apache Drive**  
**Columbus, Georgia 31909**  
**(706) 323-6677**

-----  
 PRODIGY(R) Service Personal Message 03/30/94  
 -----

To: ROY BOATMAN (XMMP18A)  
 From: DAVID REGENTHAL (SCBU05A)  
 Subject: Ranger Memorial  
 Date: 03/30/94 01:05 AM

Roy-

Jay Hickey told me that there is a way we can buy a brick on the installment plan? If that is true, please tell me about it as I would like to purchase one in honor of my fallen commrade, Duane Alfred De Vega.

Got my copy of Patrolling today - good job. I am getting ready to punch out our next newsletter within the next week or two.

P.S. I do not have any major credit cards.

Best to ya!

D. Regenthal

-----  
 PRODIGY(R) Service Personal Message 03/30/94  
 -----

To: DAVID REGENTHAL (SCBU05A)  
 From: ROY BOATMAN (XMMP18A)  
 Subject: Ranger Memorial  
 Date: 03/30/94 10:26 AM

Dave-

Yes you can make installment payments. 1/2 needs to be paid before the RMF will cut the brick. A regular application needs to be filled out and a statement on how you will pay attached. I am sure you don't have any documentation for our fallen comrade (De Vega), if you don't, let me know and I will send you a letter authorizing his name. All the RVN applications come to me for verification and your word is good enough for me.

If you don't get enough credit from the F/75 people, I'd like to thank you for what you do. You and Bill do a great job keeping your people informed. Wish all the unit rep's and members would do 1/2 as much as you all do. Drive On! and if there is anything I can do to help, let me know.

Roy

## HEALTH ALERT

Dear Dave-

This is a little awkward to write. I am not looking for any sympathy, but I feel I should share what happened to me with the rest of the company. A year ago I had to have a kidney removed because of cancer. The were not symptoms or pain, they found it during a routine physical.

There were two things that the doctor said that made me want to write. First, he said this cancer was rare in someone as young as I was, (41 at the time). Second, that with this type of cancer, by the time someone starts feeling pain or noticing anything, that it would be too late because the cancer will have spread too far. As it was with my cancer, they got it early enough that I do not have a problem.

I asked if the caner could be blamed on Agent Orange and he said he could not rule out the possibility. I mentioned this and was told that the AO's that Company F worked had been coated with defoliants. I urge everyone to get in for a physical and if you have not had one get an IVP, CAT Scan or sonogram.

Now that we have found each other we don't want to lose anybody!

Joe Cassilly

Joe-

**Thanks for sharing your experience with us through the newsletter. Guess it's about time we all took a look at our health, whether related to Southeast Asia or not . . .**

I recently mentioned to a friend I work with that I had my "can" (prostrate) checked. He had been experiencing some pain but had been reluctant to see the Doc until our talk. Good news is that they found his in time too!

David R

## SIT REP:

**MEMORIAL DAY** If you're coming to D.C., our "CP" will be at the Howard Johnson Hotel National Airport. It is located about four miles from "the Wall" only a couple of blocks from the Metro (subway) that will take you there (get off at Foggy Bottom), better than driving, trust me!

The room will be registered to Bill (Mrkvicka). Bill and I will be there beginning sometime Friday afternoon thru Tuesday morning (May 27th-31st).

I will have t-shirts again this year at \$10.00 each. Like last year the front will say "Memorial Day '94 Company F 75th Rangers Washington, D.C." The back commemorates our men who's names appear on the Wall and is similar to what appears at the bottom of this page. If you require a size other than Large or XL, or if you will not be there but would like me to send you one when I get back, please let me know soon . . . a couple extra bucks should cover shipping.

**BIG REUNION** If you're coming to Fort Benning our "CP" will be at the Sheraton Inn-Columbus Airport. Be sure to use the group number "R-75" when you call to make your reservations. We expect there are about 75 to 100 reasons you should come (which look something like this: Addair . . . Zellner). A number of the guys have said they will be there if they have to "low crawl." As we get closer to the event contact Bill or I for a current listing of who is expected to be there.

For those of you that were not able to be there in '92 and don't already know this, it is a good thing to bring your family. There is plenty to do, wives, girlfriends, and children all enjoyed the last one. If you want to purchase a brick for the Ranger Memorial Walk send your dough directly to the 75th Association Secretary (see addresses pg 4 and related message pg 5). Also, don't forget, Gary Lemonds will be inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame. Be sure that your dues are paid so that you can vote at the General Membership Meeting . . . if you are not going to be there send your written proxy to Bill so he can represent you.

Jay Hickey says he has a ton or room for people that want (or need) to camp out at his Boy Scout Campground. Emmett H. & Tom Cahill are already hard at it getting things in place for an experience you will long remember!

Whether you are coming to D.C., Fort Benning, or both, make your plans and reservations soon . . .

## "FRIENDS"

*The old dog sitting beside the door, the  
young man off to fight a war.*

*Hunts and adventures are in the past,  
the first parting had come at last.*

*The old dog mourned and missed his master,  
if only the days would pass on faster.*

*From Vietnam the letters came through,  
his masters scent he always knew.*

*His master came home with thirteen  
strangers, a burial detail of Army Rangers.*

*The sound of Taps is mournful to hear,  
played over one held so dear.*

*The old dog laid down and died that day,  
a broken heart some folks say.*

*But other folks think he never died,  
just joined his master on the other side.*

Duane Goodridge

(Memorial Day T-Shirt Design)



# COMPANY F

## CU CHI ♦ TAY NINH ♦ DAU TIENG


JOSEPH A AGUIRRE ♦ RICHARD C BABB ♦ STEVEN COLLIER  
JERRY D COPELAND ♦ JOHN F CRICKFAIR ♦ DONALD A DAVIS  
DUANE A DE VEGA ♦ MACK DENNARD JR ♦ JOSEPH L FIZGERALD  
CARL D FLOWERS ♦ AIVIN W FLOYD ♦ HOWARD B HANDLEY  
KENNETH HARJO ♦ EARNEST HEARD JR ♦ JOHN A JACOVAC  
GREGORY R KELLY ♦ MILAN I LEE ♦ CHARLES D MACKEN  
DONALD R MAYBERRY ♦ GARY R MCFALL ♦ BRIAN K MCGAR  
DOUGLAS R POLLOCK ♦ ROBERT R PRITCHARD ♦ CHARLES R ROGERSON  
RAYMOND W SULLIVAN ♦ MICHAEL F THOMAS ♦ ROBERT C THOMPSON  
DONALD W TINNEY ♦ ARTHUR TOMASCHEK ♦ JOHN H WHITE

## JUNE 1966 ♦ MARCH 1971

WAR ZONE C ♦ FILBOL ♦ MICHELEN PLANTATION ♦ HOI LOI WOODS ♦ HO HO WOODS  
TRAPEZOID ♦ NUI BA DEN ♦ IRON TRIANGLE ♦ STRAIGHT EDGE ♦ RENEGADE WOODS

## THE LIST

Apparently diligence pays off . . . **the List now totals 500 names!** We have addresses on 280 of you. We have 22 addresses which were old-no forwarding address when we received them, 161 names which are incomplete, 30 died "in country", and 7 others who have passed since.

So what does this mean? It means that Mrkvicka and Cassilly, and a handful of you have been hard at work . . . the rest, well? Look, I know that there is a small group of you that does not want to be bothered for one reason or another that is valid for you but, I also know of the many that have been tickled  pink to have been found!

So, if you have not done so already, will you "pack rats" get out your magic box and dig out ALL COPIES of orders relating to Company F and send them to Bill Mrkvicka NOW, please?

It would be a sad state of affairs to allow just one person who would have liked to have been informed of the Reunion to miss it because we let them down. Let's do what we can to pass the word, that's all I ask of myself so that's all I can ask of you.

We will have the list available in D.C. and at Fort Benning in August. If you want to know where someone is in the mean time, call me or Mrkvicka and just ask. There are a few people that have expressed their desire to not have their addresses made available and we have (and will continue to) honor those requests. If you have any concerns about the way we are doing things please, make the effort to let us know.

A number of you have unlisted telephone numbers. I have made it my practice to keep them in confidence. I will, however, continue to make your addresses available to other members of Company F unless you instruct us otherwise. It has been very expensive finding many of you so, if you move and want to continue to be advised of what is going on you will need to send us your new address.

I don't want to sound like a "whiner" as my expense has only been moderate but, if you had the money in the bank that Mrkvicka and Cassilly have invested into this project you would not have to worry about affording to come to Fort Benning.

Enough for the lecture, I get this way sometimes and it "Don't Mean Nuth in'." I apologize but I think there are times things just needs to be said out loud, huh?

## THE NEWSLETTER

My intent in founding the newsletter was to provide a basic service for the members of Company F, to pass the word. What would make it better is your telling me what you want from it. I appreciate the letters and stories that many of you have contributed and look forward to receiving many more in the months ahead.

On occasion I have had a picture loaned to me for publication in the newsletter and have not been able to print it. Here's how you can help: If you have a picture, instead of sending it to me, go down to your nearest Kwik Copy/Quick Print, whatever, and tell them you need to "half tone" your picture(s) for publication in the newsletter. Most of these places perform this service and will do it for you for a modest fee. This way you will be able to hang on to your original, and get a better result when it goes to our printer. If you remember the cover to the first newsletter (Sept '92), you know what I am talking about <GRIN>.

This process, by the way, is the same as what we will have to go through this fall when we attempt to put a Yearbook together. You see, all I can do here is to scan them into the newsletter with my hand scanner . . .

## THE YEARBOOK

Speaking of which, a lot of the guys are pretty excited about the idea of doing a yearbook. My thinking is that we can use current pictures of ourselves, contrasting them with then, current stuff, family stuff, old stuff, stories, poetry, drawings, maps, etc. in this project. I would be happy to be contacted by anyone who has any experience in this area. It will be a long and tedious process but, if we do it up right it should be more than worth the effort.

Please bring what you have or want to submit for the Yearbook to D.C. or Fort Benning. I am expecting we won't really get underway until, at least, after the Reunion. If for some reason you are not going to be able to attend then, by all means, send your stuff to me directly at the Pointman address. Please be sure to identify your stuff by putting your name on back if you are going to want what you send returned.

So, let's keep those cards and letters coming folks! Keep the cameras rolling and the videos "videoing." I happen to have it on good authority that there are some "Spielbergs Talbots, Frosts, Kings, and Cronkites" among us . . .





"Home of the Brave" is a play about the Vietnam experiences told and performed by Vietnam combat veterans. The script was developed using material contributed by Vietnam combat vets from all over the country. Six veterans, including our own **Joe Little**, lent credibility to the casts portrayals. One can sense less acting and more of a personal sharing in their performances. Trish Kinney, herself a daughter of a Vietnam vet produced and directed the play. She spent 2-3 years gathering stories and interviewing vets.

The play is a riveting account of the pain and process of healing. Many see the play as a potentially important tool in helping veterans and their families heal their own pain as well as a tool to help educate the community in understanding the issues of combat veterans. **However, because of the intensity of the play, it is recommended that you not view the play alone as it may be a catalyst for emotions that require an opportunity to process the feelings and memories it evokes.**

Joe Little sent a copy to me that I am late in forwarding, per his instructions, to Bruce Craft. I watched it alone the first time and agree that viewing with someone who loves you and is supportive of you is good advice. I also watched it with my son, then age 14. It is clear to me that our children are confused about Vietnam and our participation in that period of history. Michael had many questions which I was able to answer honestly that added some clarity to his limited understanding, and I'm glad I did.

The video is approximately 115 minutes in length and can be purchased for \$22.90, which includes postage from:

**HOME OF THE BRAVE FOUNDATION  
6303 S. RURAL ROAD #3  
TEMPE, ARIZONA 85283  
(602) 820-3451**

Dave-

3-24-94

I got a letter from Emmett Hiltibrand today telling me that you were spending your own money getting out the Pointman - I don't think any of us should have to go into our own pockets to any great extent. So here's \$25.00 to help out. Please put me on the regular mailing list.

If you and I served in Company F at the same time I don't remember you - but, hell, I don't remember a lot of things any more.

Keep up the good work. Hope to see you at Fort Benning in August.

Regards, Bob Sandlin

Editor: Thanks Bob! I was there July '68-69

.....

Hey David!

Just a little bit to help on Newsletter or Company F expense. I'm still looking for more records. Keep your head up, and a special thank you for your endeavors. Love ya! Joe (Little)

P.S. Flyer was used for the video premier. It sort of tells all. I just copied it for you to edit and use in the newsletter, if warranted.

.....

Hi Dave-

I enjoyed the Pointman. Where are they now? Daniel Caldera (address provided) . . .

Thanks for the pointers on the whereabouts of everyone. I will continue to look for names and addresses. We have several in Kentucky. You have permission to publish my name, address, and phone number.

Reynolds J. Johnson, Jr.  
603 Foxfire Road  
Elizabethtown, Kentucky 42701  
(502) 737-4595  
Company F March '69-70

Thanks!

Reynolds J. Johnson

Hi Dave-

Just a few words to say hello and let you know what I have been doing.

I'm on total disability from the police action in Korea, so I wanted to remember all people I let behind. The City Manager of Ashtabula, Ohio asked me to do something with an overgrown park they had across from city hall in downtown Ashtabula. In front of city hall is a wall and on it are the words John Kennedy said, "Ask Not What Your Country Can Do for You, Ask What You Can Do for Your Country."

So, I got a small group of people together (Veterans) and I designed a national memorial, for veterans of all wars. This was just as Desert Storm ended and I added space for them. People said it would cost too much, but the Ranger in me said otherwise . . . I raised \$80-100,000 and designed it. Also raised additional money, material (a lot of it) and people donating labor to build it. I started in April of 1988 and dedicated it September 1989.

The memorial has seven panels of the highest grade granite and are etched in white. Had a professional artist do the work. It is for all 50 States and all the men and women in them. Enclosed is a picture, they boy is my grandson and girl is my niece.

Hope you like it. Let everyone know this is the only one of its kind in the USA. For more info give me a call. We had two generals and a lot of brass there for the dedication, also a fly over.

Sorry for my penmanship but I'm not too steady today. Keep the newsletters coming. Enclosed is \$20.00 to help with the cost.

**From a Ranger who will never forget**

Anthony (Tony) Izzi



Aloha! Washington 35 Dallas 16

Just a few odds and ends I picked up at the Aloha Flea Market (in the parking lot outside Aloha Stadium), where they have the Pro Bowl. Was out shopping for gifts to bring to Wisconsin in a few years. Looks like I'll be going back early since **I wouldn't miss the next reunion this summer for anything.** I know there where, but not the when?

Thanks for the t-shirt and the tape, brought back some names and faces. I remember everyone in the tape, especially Dan Nate. If I remember correctly, he had a thing for Janis Joplin . . . also, I got beaned by him in our hootch when he swung at the guy who broke his tape recorder. **Yeah, I'll be there!**

I found the book in our laundry room, thought it was pretty good. Haven't read a book on Nam since The Thirteenth Valley. Mostly read King and Clancy. Will give you a call from Wisconsin. I'm not much on writing.

Later Big Wave Dave! "Chuckbo" (Chuck Reau)

## Late Word . . .

**FROM BRUCE CRAFT:**

"I have worked out a deal with the HAMPTON INN next to the Sheraton in Columbus on great rates! Also, car rental and air fares should be booked through me for better savings. I can be reached by FAX 24 hour (305) 655-3365 or (305) 654-9338

See you at the Reunion - Thanks! Bruce

**HOW CAN I HELP?**

Jeez, if I had a nickel for every time I'd been asked that one! The answer is (well, one of them anyway), If you have never spoken to Bill, Me, or Dick Ewald, call and verify your address and information. We would like to know your dates of service with Company F, your length of service, awards and decorations, disabilities, and whatever family information you are comfortable sharing . . .

This stuff may become important in the years to come as it become necessary to lobby members of congress on our mutual behalf.

**R.S.V.P.** (please) If you are going to be coming to Washington on Memorial Day, or Fort Benning this summer, call Bill and let him know so we can get a good head count, and also let everyone else know you are planning on being there. This is important because this may be the last POINTMAN until after the reunion.

**TEAM LEADERS-** We will be in touch with those of you that have volunteered (and some that will be asked to volunteer to make contact with others in your area), very soon, so keep an eye on that mail box . . .

Dear David-

I want you to know that I have spent a great deal of time contemplating how I could express past feelings of mine: about the war, your participation in the war, about you (? - many issues here). It's hard to remember with a brain so clouded with psychological jargon, perceptions fogged with life's experiences of the past 25 years.

I knew very little of war, and still have no experience with personal terror, suffering of war. Although it has been said that all the suffering in the world is never greater than one man's suffering - I may refute that. Along with any sorrows I've experienced there has always been joy somewhere - even in the air around. And yet, I suspect for someone in the midst of war, joys are hard to find - often only in memories.

In war the joys do not outweigh the immediacy of terror and pain. Joy is found, perhaps, more in remembrances and longings of a future. Yet, I've certainly felt and experienced pain and suffering. I've received friends in a casket - and a very close friend soaked head to toe in blood - almost unrecognizable if I hadn't loved her, known her soul. I have held teenage girls abused by a father, mother, or a brother. I've met with young boys and men who had been assaulted and molested by their fathers or mother. I have felt some of their anger, their pain. Yet, I've still not come to terms with their pain, and suffering. Somewhere, along the way in those times there was always love, a touch, a warm shoulder to lean on, an arm right there to lend a hand, in the immediate.

I've never felt the alienation of being so far away from loved ones. So, the sting, the unrealness of the pain could not have been (for me) what it was for those who fought in Vietnam. Even when Beth died, I was thankful for the warm, sunny, day - the green grass and budding flowers, the hills we drove through, the familiar surroundings. The familiarity gave me the comfort I needed. So, of course, it is hard to relate to the experiences of such horrors taking place over a long time in a foreign place - so far away.

Simple things in life bring joys that can't be found in war: an apple in the refrigerator or ice cream or a sandwich at midnight, a phone call to a friend, a silent starry night after a hard day, a car ride to gather thoughts through the country - No, I can not grasp life for a year or two or longer, fighting in a war. One who hasn't been there can't grasp that! So what can I say to even begin to relate to what you and your fellow Vets have experienced? Not much, honestly - nothing to help reconcile the past.

But I believe I loved you then; and, in a fantasy way, loved what might have been if we had had the time and chance to become closer friends. I had selfish feelings - so afraid of a personal loss. I'm sure I looked for a letter from you almost every day. And, I'd ask around to find out if someone had heard from you. The letters gave me a false sense of reassurance that you were O.K. I'm sure I worried and prayed every day. Casualties reported on TV and newspaper pictures were disconcerting. My heart probably leapt each time I was forcibly confronted by real images in the media.

At the same time I missed, not only the real you, but some heroic you I conjured up with my endless romanticism. I thought you must be very brave, patriotic, and strong - and I was intimidated by that power in you. I was home, giving up hard work and a good life, for momentary pleasures while you were trying to survive in a treacherous place. I did respect you for that - perhaps I even looked up to you, a little in awe. Selfishly, I wanted you to come home safely, unharmed more for me than you; just as (I regret to admit), I've loved because I needed to be loved. It's hard for me, even now, to believe that anyone is truly altruistic. But I do feel less selfish now than I was then (perhaps self-centered or self serving are better words for "selfish").


Now I wish you to be whole - to take care of yourself for you, for the precious person that you are, for the child of God you are. Then, I wanted you to "take care of yourself for me." And you did take care of yourself, for you - I'm ever grateful that you came home.

*"For it is one thing to see the land of peace from a wooded ridge . . . and another to tread the road that leads to it."*  
St Augustine, Confessions, VII, xxi

*"When we are lost in the woods the sight of a signpost is a great matter. He who first sees it cries, "Look!" The whole party gathers round and stares. But when we have found the road and are passing the sign posts every few miles, we shall not stop and stare. They will encourage us and we shall be grateful for the authority that set them up."* C.S. Lewis from Surprised by Joy

**I think all of those who served in the war are, perhaps, Closer to Joy than the rest of us who stop and stare, needing the beauty of the familiar - not knowing we must walk the path to get there - we, falsely assured, grow complacent.**

Take care and write soon.  
I miss you . . .



**75TH RANGER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION  
REUNION SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

**24 August      Wednesday**  
0900-1630      Registration  
1200-2400      Hospitality Room Open

**25 August      Thursday**  
0900-1200      Registration  
1200-1400      Hospitality Room Open  
1330-          Load Busses for Fort Benning  
1400-1630      Airborne Training Demo  
1645-          Load Buses  
1730-1930      Ranger Memorial Dedication  
                 Ranger Hall of Fame Induction  
                 Fallen Comrades Ceremony  
1930-          Load Buses for Hotel  
1930-2400      Hospitality Room Open

**26 August      Friday**  
0900-          Load buses for Hurley Hill  
1000-1100      Rangers in Action Demo  
1100-          Load buses for Camp Rogers  
1100-1400      Open House  
1130-1300      Barbecue Lunch at RTB  
1400-          Load buses for hotel  
1400-2400      Hospitality Room Open  
1530-1700      Unit Director Meeting

**27 August      Saturday**  
1030-1230      General Membership Meeting  
1300-1500      Hospitality Room Open  
1700-1800      Cocktails  
1800-2000      Dinner  
2000-2400      Entertainment

This is the tentative schedule that our National Association has for the Reunion and is subject to change. Members will receive a final version via the June issue of PATROLLING.

It would be a good idea to register for the reunion early: send bucks & info directly to the Treasurer (address on page 4). The cost is \$65 per member or guest (\$20 for children under 12), and they will need to know your t-shirt size, S, M, LG, XL, XXL . . . there are no children's t-shirts. Also, indicate your choice of beef plate or chicken for the banquet.

Note: Last time I spent most of my time in the bar visiting with the guys and missed most of the scheduled events, and I had a wonderful time anyway! This time I plan to maximum my time with you wherever you are. By the time we do everything on their schedule, visit in the bar, and partake in all that Hiltibrand "and Company" have lined up for us we will have enjoyed a very full four days indeed.

**See you at Fort Benning!**

**the POINTMAN  
2408-B Burleson Court  
Austin, Texas 78741**

**POSTMASTER - PLEASE FORWARD TO ADDRESSEE**