

Welcome to the National Vietnam Era
Veterans Day Dinner March 29th, 2025
Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus
Potomac Assembly 2204 and
The Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 609



THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



COMMEMORATION

A GRATEFUL NATION THANKS AND HONORS YOU



*A Grateful Nation Thanks and Honors
Our Vietnam War Veterans for Their
Service, Valor & Sacrifice*

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE VIETNAM WAR COMMEMORATION



Recognizes

POTOMAC ASSEMBLY

as a

Commemorative Partner

Awarded in recognition of your willingness to assist and support a grateful nation in thanking and honoring our Vietnam War Veterans, their families, and those who served with, or in support of, the Armed Forces. Done this 27TH day of JANUARY, 2022.

SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

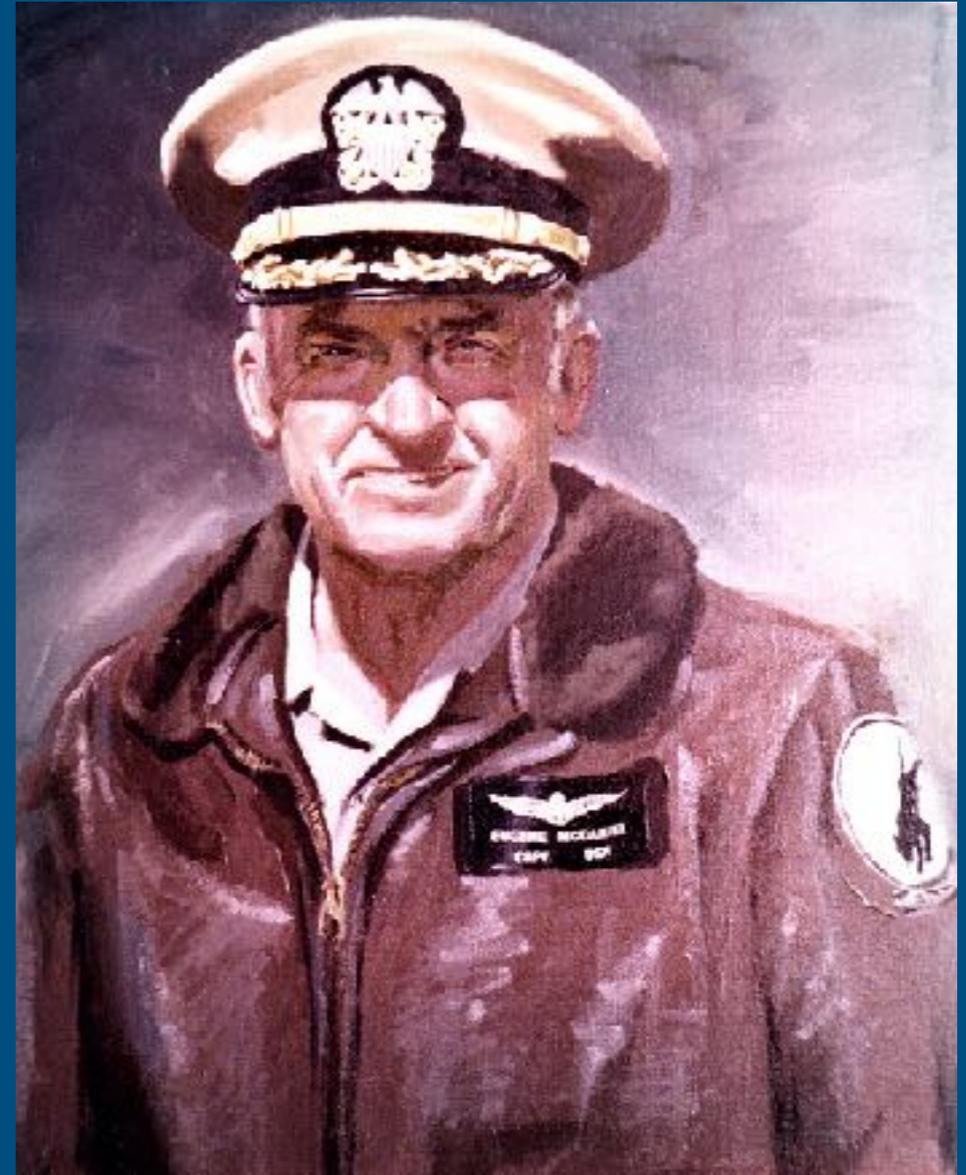
CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

Captain Eugene “Red” McDaniel

On May 19, 1967, while on his 81st combat mission over North Vietnam, Eugene B. “Red” McDaniel was shot down while flying his A-6 Intruder aircraft. He was listed as “missing in action” until 1970, when the Hanoi government acknowledged that he was being held prisoner. A POW for six years, McDaniel was released 4 March 1973, after the Vietnam cease-fire.

Red McDaniel was one of the most brutally tortured prisoners of the Vietnam War. This torture resulted from his active role in camp communications during an organized escape attempt by his fellow prisoners. He is the author of *Scars and Stripes*, a book telling about his six years in a communist prison.

When Red McDaniel returned home from Vietnam, he was awarded the Navy’s highest award for bravery, the Navy Cross. Among his other military decorations are two Silver Stars, the Legion of Merit with Combat “V”, the Distinguished Flying Cross, three Bronze Stars with Combat “V”, and two Purple Hearts for wounds received at the hands of the North Vietnamese torturers.



Gerald P. “Jerry” Krueger

Captain, U.S. Army Military Police, During 1971-72, assigned to the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (OSD-ARPA). Served as an advisor to the Vietnamese Joint General Staff Combat Development Test Center in Saigon. Trained Vietnamese officers in Test and Evaluation of novel war equipment their allies were offering for their inventory as fighting the war was being turned over to the Vietnamese military. Completed active duty career of 25+ years, most as a Military Research Psychologist, retired as an Army Colonel, Medical Service Corps.



John Dougherty



May 1969 - May 1970. HHC, 14th Transportation Battalion (AM&S(GS)) Direct and General Support for Army aircraft in II Corps. UH-1 (Huey) pilot.



Joseph Zelinka



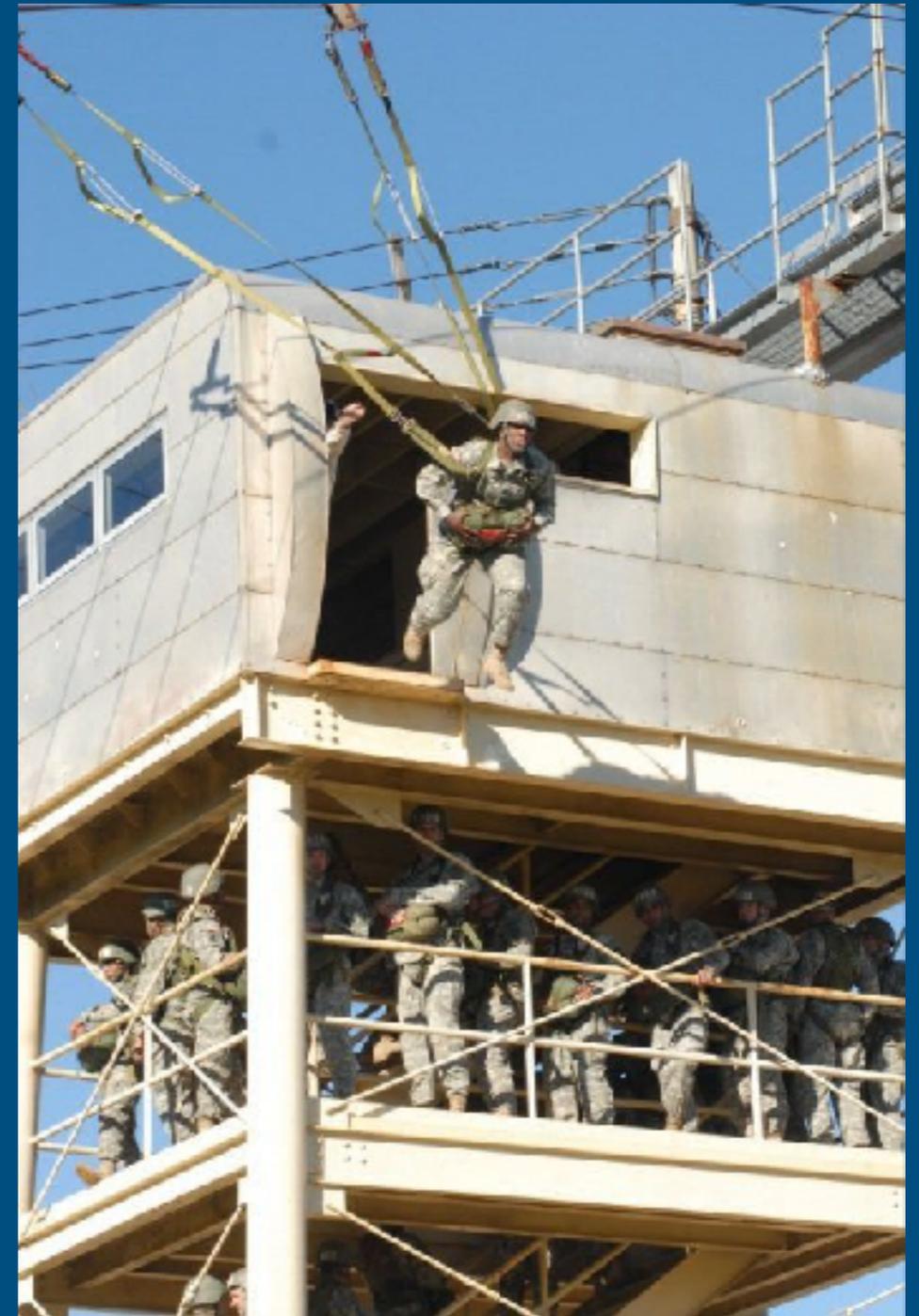
I served at Cam Rahn Bay Air Base from June 1966 to April 1967. I was a First Lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force. I was assigned to the 485th Ground Electronics Engineering Installation Squadron. It was a communications-electronics squadron. The squadron installed telephone and microwave communications, landing and approach systems and aids to navigation.

Nate Murray

U. S. Navy. 1962, 503rd Airborne school, Camp Sukaran, Okinawa

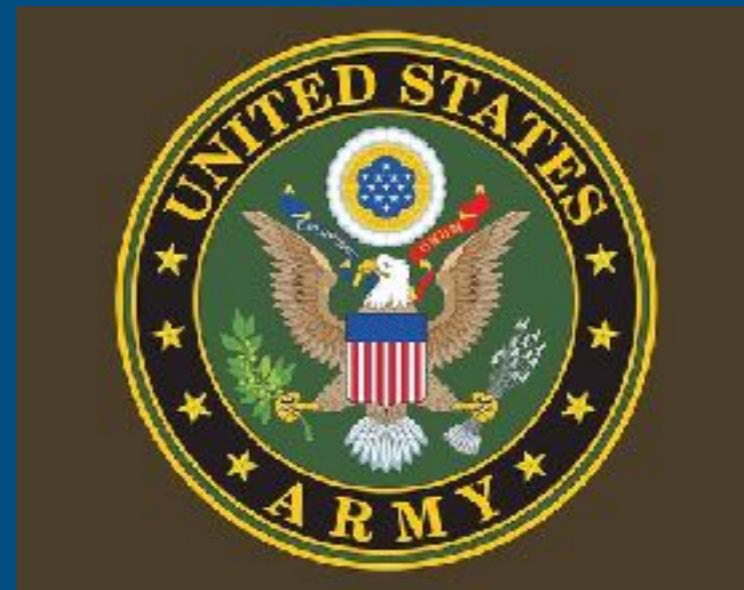
Larry Clark

U.S. Navy. 1970-1973, I was an E5 working for 7th Fleet as an Electronics specialist. I would work with Electric Technicians on the radars being used by the enemy. I was also an operator in P-3 aircraft flying out of Cam Ranh Bay, Vietnam, looking for ships/sampan carrying contraband.



James Ellett

Drafted Spring 1968. Attended U.S. Army-USMC counterintelligence school at Fort Holabird, MD. DaNang, RVN, January to August 1970; duties in city and surrounding USAF, USMC, US Navy and US Army elements. PCS'd to MACV TM 42 August 1970 with duty inside Phoenix Program effort at District Chief level (II Corps). Duties and living on II Corps Advisor Compound with trainers 11Bs/ 11Fs/ Engineers/Medics. Those five months of association, support, team work, displays of humanity, death, rural living by third world residents in a war zone, all helped me stay Army until November 1988 (Retirement from US Army). Those experiences led me to reenlist 3-4 times. I made the E8 list, but finished 20 years as a USAR Warrant Officer.



Kevin R. Moran

Drafted in January 1971 I found myself doing infantry training a few months later at Fort Polk Louisiana. Here I am enjoying my first C-Ration meal. Earlier I was called into the CO's office to have him tell that because of my test scores the Army wanted to send me to West Point. As my two older brothers were both decorated combat vets of the



'Nam I felt somewhat compelled to follow their legacy and go to Nam as a grunt. I turned down West Point and the Army sent me instead to Germany where I spent 19 months: 1st squad, 1st platoon A Company 8th Infantry Division at the NATO base in Baumholder, I was honorably discharged on January 16th two days after my 22nd birthday.

Paul K. Kayanan

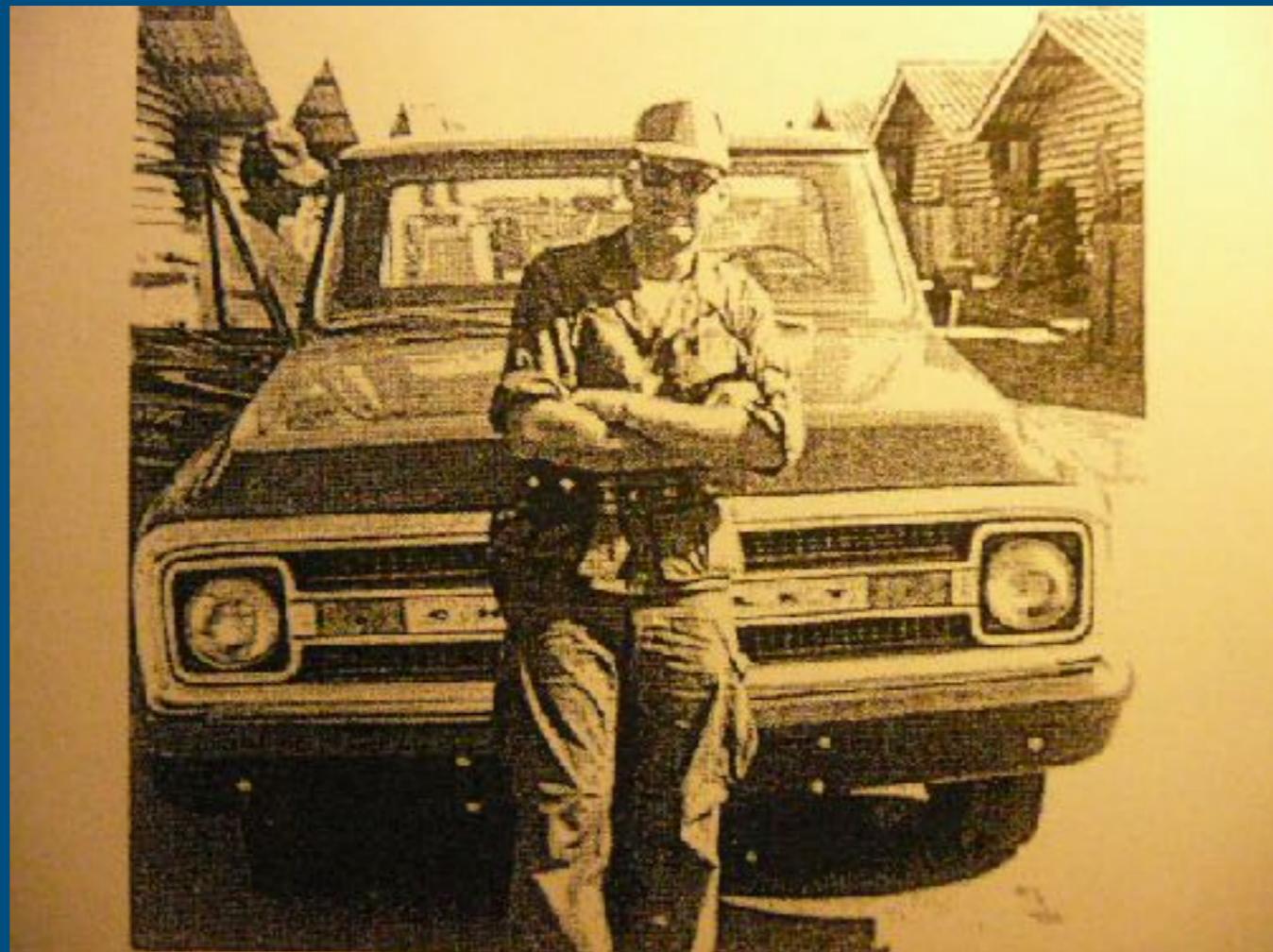
Three brothers, Daniel N., Paul R. and Leslie F., served in the Vietnam War era from 1962 - 1975, with father LTC Corsine C. Kayanan, US Army (Ret). Dad was active-duty until 1968; he was G2 with MACV, Saigon. Dan served two tours with the 5th Special Forces Group, SSG, Bronze Star for Valor, CIB and numerous Airborne awards. SK Paul served in CONUS, 6th Army, 2LT Infantry, Training Officer, 1Bn, 1Bde, Ft. Lewis Basic Combat Training Center, WA. Les was Outstanding BCT Graduate, Ft. Ord, Ca., ('71), West Point Cadet ('73-'77) and a Top Ten Young Man of America (class of '77). SK Paul graduated OCS, Infantry, Ft. Benning, GA, in Oct. '68, at 20, while dad was still on active-duty. Dan and Paul, enlisted through Dad's command in Manila, 8 March '67; Dan went to Paratrooper School in Ft. Benning, Ga. while Paul was assigned to White Sands Missile Range, NM, as a Telecommunications Specialist, prior to Infantry OCS, Ft. Benning.



Jim Marshall

SSgt Jim Marshall, Headquarters Squadron, Data Automation, 377th Air Base Wing, Tan Son Nhut Air Base, Vietnam, Feb 1970 – Mar 1972

Computer Operator processing Finance, Military & Civilian Payroll, Personnel, Assignments, Medical Shot Records, NCO Club Financials and Aircraft Maintenance Reporting.



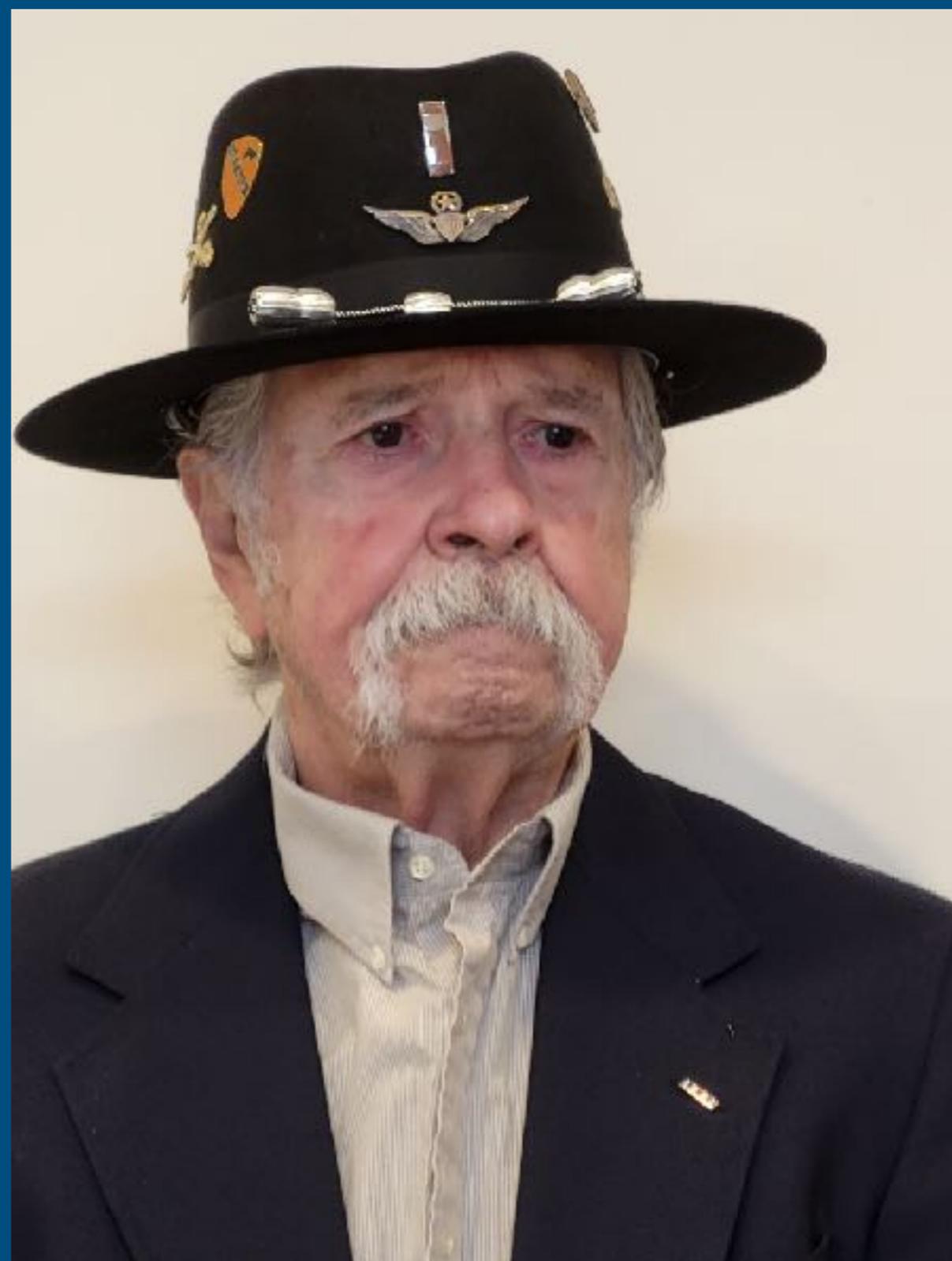
Leland C. Komich

Chief Warrant Officer 4, US Army (23 years active duty).

Served as UH-1D Helicopter pilot in 229th Assault Helicopter Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division in Vietnam's Central Highlands.

In the La Drang Valley battle (Nov. 1965), Lee piloted numerous flights over three days/nights, at repeated risk under fire. In the heat of battle, he extracted 39 wounded soldiers for which Lee was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry.

By his 2nd tour in Vietnam, Lee logged over 2,000 combat helicopter hours. He was shot down in a CH-47 Chinook which burned to the ground. In addition to the Silver Star Medal, Lee received 2 Bronze Stars, the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal with 46 Oak Leaf Clusters.



Fred D. Wiggins

SFC, retired; served in US Army 1952-1975.

Among the first African-Americans to graduate from US Airborne School at Fort Benning in 1952. Was a member of the 11th Airborne Division; 82nd Airborne Division, 503rd and 505th Infantry Regiments. Served in Vietnam 1967-68 during the TET Offensive. In Vietnam, Fred was an Engineer responsible for building river bridges. Canvassed for and disarmed land mines in the countryside before troops went out on patrol. Recipient of the Bronze Star in Vietnam, Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm. Army Commendation Medal 4 Good Conduct Medals; Civil Actions Honor Medal.



William McGuirk

U.S. Army. First Air Cavalry Division in the Republic of Vietnam from February 13, 1970 to January 7, 1971. Served in the G-3 Operations Section at Division Headquarters near the Village of Phuoc Vinh, located about 30 miles north of Bien Hoa. Headquarters was located in an old rubber plantation operated by the French before they abandoned the country in the mid 1950's. Worked a 12 hour shift 7 days per week from 7:00 PM to 7:00 AM for entire tour. to repeat. Responsibility involved coordinating troop movements of all field units in the area of operation for the next day and preparing the daily briefing for the command leadership team every morning. Arrived in Vietnam with 152 graduates of Fort Benning's NCO School. 149 of those sergeants scored field assignments with combat infantry units. I was one of three sergeants to be assigned a job in the (relative) rear. I made it a point to attend Sunday Mass every week as thanks for this assignment.



Richard E. Frigon

Served in the U.S. Army July 1955- October 1962. Mostly as an administrative assistant. Served in South Korea 1959-60. Last assignment was in administration at the Pentagon.



Rich Dunbar

First Lieutenant, U.S. Army, Military Assistance Command Vietnam (MACV), June 1970 - December 1971. Intelligence Advisor, District Intelligence and Operations Coordinating Center (DIOCC), Thien Giao District, Binh Thuan Province, Military Region II. Advised Vietnamese military intelligence and National Police on conduct of operations against Viet Cong infrastructure cadre and units.





**NATIONAL
VIETNAM WAR
VETERANS DAY
29 MARCH**

Join the Nation...

Thank a Vietnam Veteran



THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
**VIETNAM WAR
COMMEMORATION**

honoring Service Valor Sacrifice



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