

HONORING MARINE CORPS CORPORAL LARRY HALE (USMC VET) REVEILLE CERTIFICATE OF COMMENDATION



Adjutant
AL Post 106



Marine FTO



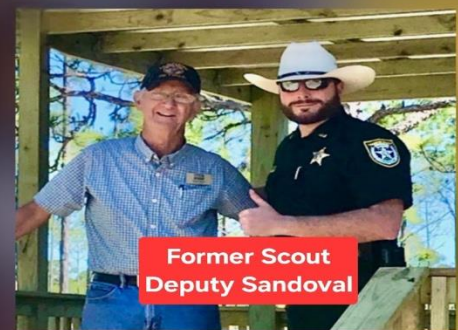
Cua Viet - Dong Ha



Annual Scout
Regatta



Reorganized
Troop 22



Former Scout
Deputy Sandoval



Honoree USMC Vet
Cpl Larry Hale Stands
Generals Cartwright &
Snowden's at latter's
B'Day Event

CITATION ACCOMPANYING CORPORAL LARRY HALE (US MARINE CORPS)
REVEILLE CERTIFICATE OF COMMENDATION

Former US Marine Corps Corporal and long-time St. George Island resident Larry Hale distinguished himself first as a Field Telephone Operator in combat and later as a real estate entrepreneur and local Scout Master. He was born and raised in Tallahassee to parents Henry T. and Willy Wynn Hale, graduating from Leon County High School in 1963. Like many young men of the 1960s, his life was quickly influenced by the prospect of being drafted, which officially started in 1964. Larry chose to become a Marine on the advice of his favorite Uncle, Captain Ellis Hale, who had served in WWII as Aide de Camp to legendary Marine General Lewis “Chesty” Puller. He enlisted in ‘64, attending boot camp at Parris Island, Beaufort, SC, and advanced training as a Field Telephone Operator or FTO at Camp LeJeune, NC. While arguably one of the most important jobs in a combat unit because of his responsibilities for calling for Artillery, Naval, and Air gunfire support, Corporal Hale did not calculate at the time that the FTO with his signature radio antenna was often a priority target of the enemy fire. Adding to this misfortune, he entered service during the height of the build-up for Vietnam and the beginning of the Tet Offensive, the bloodiest period of the entire War. Before deploying to Vietnam, he and other 6th Marine leathernecks were dispatched in 1965 to the Dominican Republic to help protect 3,000 American Citizens enthralled in an ongoing Civil War and to quell fears of a communist takeover of that tiny island nation so close to the US. After a brief stint there, Corporal Hale deployed to Vietnam in 1967 and was assigned to the 3rd Marine Headquarters, conducting security operations in the area outside of the vital and sprawling Da Nang Air Base. In April 1968, the **Battle of Dong Ha** took place as North Vietnamese Army (NVA) forces of about 8-10,000 men attempted to penetrate and interrupt the 3rd Marine’s logistical lines of communications along the Cua Viet River and ultimately destroy the 3rd Marine headquarters. The battle saw heavy casualties on both sides, with the NVA estimated to have lost over 3,600 killed and U.S. forces losing 327 dead and more than 1,500 wounded, one of the costliest of the war. Corporal Hale was one of the *walking wounded* during the battle, taking shrapnel from most likely enemy artillery below his left lung, small pieces of which remain and impair his health even today. Larry was flown home, stopping briefly at Travis AFB in California, then on to Jacksonville Naval Air Station Hospital, on to the new VA Hospital being built in Gainesville, and ultimately discharged. For his valorous service in combat, Corporal Hale was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with V device and the Purple Heart Medal.

Upon his return to Tallahassee, Larry described himself as “180 pounds and full of anger,” bearing some of the scars of war. Like many returning from the war zone in those days, Larry remembers one fateful night of youthful indiscretion that almost caused him to lose his life a second time. Perhaps, he will share that later... Regrouping, Larry enrolled in FSU, studying financial management. With a few misfires in between, Larry settled into the real estate business with the help of his father-in-law, family, and friends, working first at HG Smith Realty, where he discovered Franklin County and St. George Island properties were some of the best-kept real estate secrets in Florida. In 1975, he and his friend Walter Armistead founded their own business, naming it SUNCOAST REALTY after his boat. And as they say, the rest is history! Despite his business success, Larry will quickly tell you that his most significant accomplishment has been his more than three decades of service as the SCOUT MASTER for the county. Hundreds of Franklin County kids went through his program, with six receiving the coveted Eagle Scout Awards. During its heyday, the Franklin Scouts Sailing Program was regarded as one of the best in the Southeast, with as many as 30 sailboats participating in the Scout Troop 22 Annual Regattas. Larry is most proud that he and his family have fostered seven children, one of whom follows in his footsteps as the Captain of a reorganized Troop 22 scouting program. Recently retired from his Real Estate business, he and his wife Lusi are faithful supporters of church, civic, and charitable activities.

For his distinguished achievements in the US Military and Civilian Life, we recognize MARINE VETERAN, CORPORAL LARRY HALE, with this VETERANS REVEILLE Certificate of Commendation. *CORPORAL HALE’s service is in keeping with the finest tradition of the Military. It reflects great credit upon himself, the United States Marine Corps, fellow Veterans, and the United States of America.*



**VETERANS' REVEILLE
CERTIFICATE
OF COMMENDATION
IS AWARDED TO**

CORPORAL LARRY HALE, USMC Veteran



**FOR EXTRAORDINARY SERVICE TO HIS COUNTRY!
"WE FEW, WE HAPPY FEW... WE BAND OF BROTHERS"**



AUGUST 1, 2025

MARK A. SHIELDS

**MARK SHIELDS
COMMANDER
AMERICAN LEGION POST 106TH**

James Donald

**JAMES DONALD
MAJOR GENERAL, U.S. ARMY (RET)
CHAIR, VETERANS REVEILLE**











**Honoree USMC Vet
Cpl Larry Hale Stands
Generals Cartwright &
Snowden's at latter's
B'Day Event**




Casualties and losses

 81 killed

 5 killed

PAVN Claim:

 500+ killed

US body count: 639+ killed

The **Battle of Dai Do** (also known as the **Battle of Đông Hà**) took place from 30 April to 3 May 1968 in **Quảng Trị Province** during the **Vietnam War**.

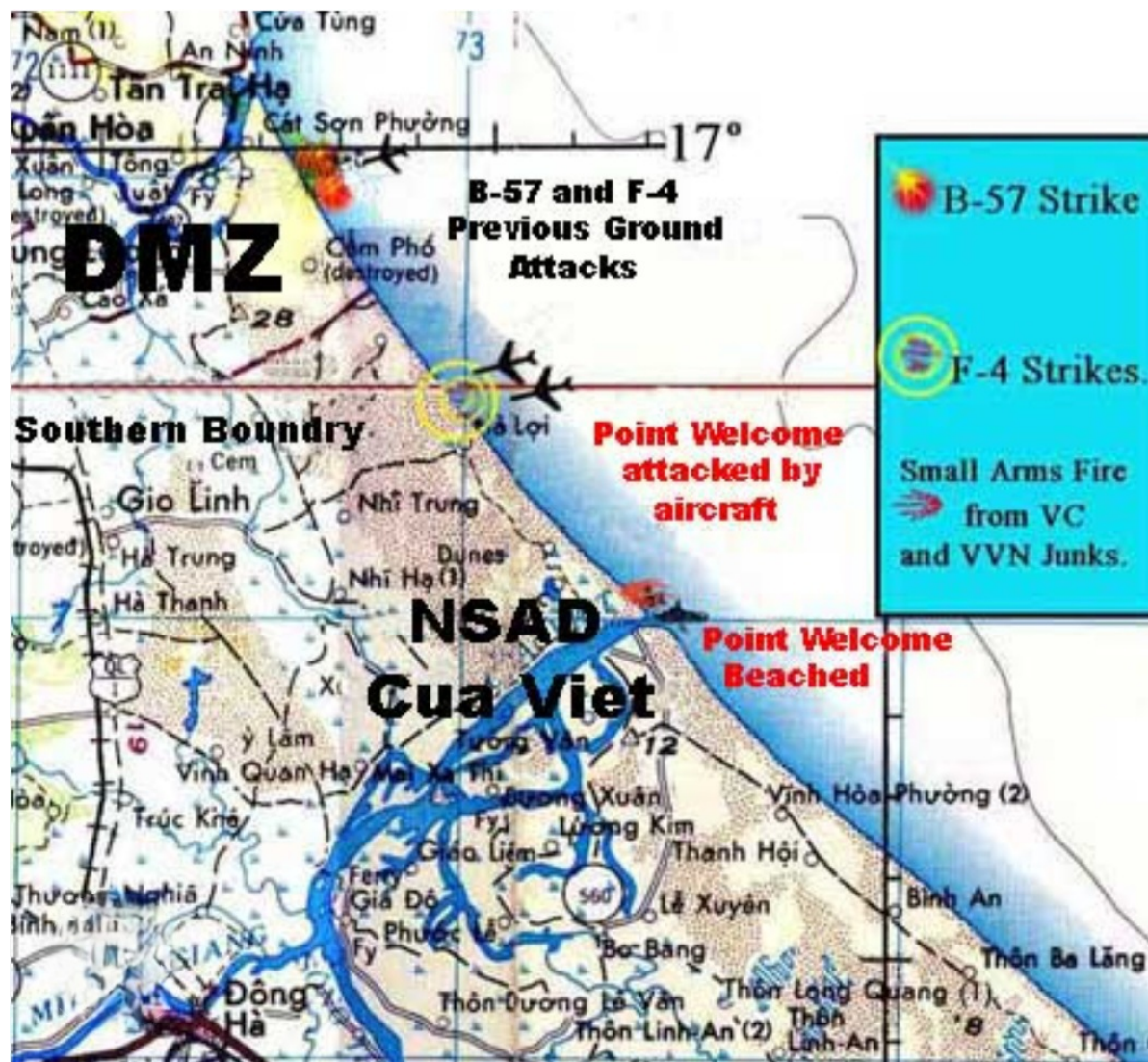
Battle of Dai Do

Part of the **Vietnam War**



2nd Battalion 4th Marines search Dai Do village





Cua Viet - Dong Ha





Larry Hale &
Former Scout,
Sheriff Deputy
Ryan Sandoval



