

## OC24-69, 50<sup>th</sup> Company, February 2024 –AT EASE!

Hello 50th Company:

Is it just me, or did February somehow ramp up its operational tempo? March has already burst through the door. Or is it a sign that, as time marches on, we old-timers need more time to just mosey? Anyway, I hope you and your families are doing well. Spring is around the corner, which means more time outdoors and hopefully more BBQs with family and friends.

First, an item of concern. I recently learned that a good friend of 50th Company, Bill Shade, an honorary member of our 50th Company (who graduated from 50th Company about 10 years before us), is a comrade in distress. His lovely wife, Dale, was recently diagnosed with cancer and will be undergoing chemotherapy. Dale and Bill live in Gettysburg, and we got to know them at the reunion there. We really enjoyed our time with them. Please remember them in your thoughts and prayers.

Speaking of friends, I've seen Google news articles on the benefits of having and making new friends, especially at our age. It seems like a harbinger (big word for an infantry guy) for our next reunion. You won't find better people to have for friends than our 50th Company OCS grads. If you have a few moments, take a look at the following website:

<https://www.inc.com/jeff-haden/decades-of-research-shows-friends-make-you-happier-healthier-but-if-you-want-to-live-a-longer-life-theres-one-large-catch.html>

This is something to keep in mind if you are still wondering whether or not to join us for our next reunion in Springfield, Illinois, October 6 - 10, 2024.

**REUNION UPDATE:** As of now we have reservations for about one-third of the rooms that we reserved. A big salute (with the **right** hand, Candidate!) to you who've signed up. Knowing approximate numbers really helps us in our reunion planning process. If you are considering joining us in Springfield, please reserve a room as soon as possible. If, for some last-minute reason, you cannot make the reunion, you may cancel the reservation without penalty up until 24 hours in advance.

The Commo Team will continue to send out reunion news to keep you informed. We are also requesting that send in your reunion fees. The per person

fee is \$330. This covers breakfasts, the banquet, two open bars, photos, and a large room for us to spend time with each other. Please make your checks out to Scott Davis and mail them to:

Scott Davis  
94 S. La Senda Drive,  
Laguna Beach, CA 92651

If you come to the reunion, I guarantee that you and your spouse will have a great time and leave with smiles on your faces.

The Reunion Committee chose Springfield, Illinois because it is a state capital with a rich and significant history. It was the town where Abraham Lincoln lived and practiced law for a quarter century before being elected President. It is also his final resting place. The Committee appreciates that 50<sup>th</sup> Company classmates enjoy getting together at locations with lots of American history. Hence, Washington D.C., Gettysburg, Kansas City, and now Springfield. History comes alive if you read up on the topic beforehand. Brian Flora has recommended a very good book on Abe Lincoln: And There Was Light, by Jon Meacham. I am currently reading it and think that you will find it fascinating.

Next, Scott Davis, 50th Company's very own Ken Burns, is creating a series of videos reviewing our Kansas City reunion. The first came out this month. The second will appear shortly. Our hope is that these will whet appetites for the upcoming Springfield reunion. Keep an eye out on your inbox; and remember that they are also posted on our website.

Finally, please remember to check our website from time to time for the latest information on the reunion, or to just do a little reminiscing. It has a section for OCS Alumni Association news as well as a host of other good stuff. Bob Hines, Scott Davis and others put a lot of effort into maintaining the website, by far the best for any Vietnam War OCS site. We are very grateful for their "labor of love." Check it out!

That's it for this month. Thanks to Brian Flora for his editing and be sure to do the best you can to Stay Healthy, Stay Well, and above all Stay Positive.

Lou Lallo