

Stephen R. Faulkner / 5th Platoon

John A Fekety / 5th Platoon

My wife and I live in Billings, MT. About 2 years before my 2012 retirement, I became involved with a Catholic secular Franciscan Fraternity. With the Franciscans, I volunteer about 3 days a week visiting elderly shut-ins and the hospitalized as well as working with the poor. I still find some time for golf and visiting grandchildren.

I spent approximately a year at Fort Riley with the 24th Infantry Division as a support platoon leader. The unit was re-designated the First Infantry Division when the Big Red 1 returned to the states from Viet Nam. I went to Panama for Jungle School, then off to a MAC-Viet Nam Mobile Advisory Team in northern III Corp. Fellow candidate D. Mike Jorgenson and I headed up the team. We were back home by June 1971 with our CIBs and fortunately no Purple Hearts.

I returned to the University of Chicago where I received my MBA in accounting with the help of the GI Bill. I became a CPA and worked for national, regional and local firms before retiring in June 2012. In 2013 and 2014, I worked on some special tax projects but my wife has advised me that I am now fully retired. I was also active on local historical and parks not-for-profit boards.

The incident in the men's latrine at the officer's club right after graduation. That was when a Captain explained that West Point taught its cadets to wash their hands after taking a leak. We took the liberty to explain to him that OCS taught its candidates not to pee on their hands. That experience was very useful as we had a number of new beer-drinking Pointer officers at Fort Riley who needed that exact type of training.

Stuart H. Ferguson II / 6th Platoon

According to his wife Stuart passed away several years ago. He did serve in Vietnam and was awarded two bronze stars in 1971.

Wayne J. Ferrentino / 4th Platoon

Wayne now lives in Dallas TX. He has a Facebook account and is a member of the OC 24-69 Facebook Group.

James R. Fields / 4th Platoon

I retired after a career as a lawyer and in non-profit management. Married 31 years to retired counselor (Barbara; PhD). We have one daughter, with multiple grandkids and great-grandkids in Texas.

Active volunteer: Kiwanis, chamber of commerce visitor center, library, hospital. I have also been auditing classes at our local community college since retiring.

Less travel as a retiree than I had hoped.

Assigned as platoon leader, 24th Infantry Div., Ft. Riley, KS (and for a short time as assistant brigade prosecutor). Ft. Riley is where my name-sake uncle is buried; he died in the Philippines in 1939 (US Army, non-military injuries).

Then Airborne School, Ft. Benning (1970), followed by Jungle School, Panama.

Left for Vietnam on July 4, 1970. Assigned to MACV, Vinh Binh province, IV Corps. With an RF-PF Lin Doi (battalion sized unit) search and destroy unit for six months. Then volunteered by Province Advisor (Lt. Col.) to create and head a Night Operations Advisory Team (NOAT) for hamlet home forces. Four us lived for short periods in various hamlets, teaching basic military, shooting and ambush skills, plus taking them out on night ambushes. I was with two interesting second tour staff sergeants (both airborne) and an ethnic Cambodian interpreter. Rotated stateside in June 1971 to inactive Reserve.

I returned and finished law school at the University of Idaho.

Worked 3 years as staff counsel for a US Senator in Washington, D.C.

Returned to Boise and worked for Idaho's premier business lobbying association for 11 years. Married first wife (from southern Virginia), who I met in D.C. Divorced after 7 years. Eventually remarried to a woman I had known in high school; (married now 31 years). Practiced law for 10+ years for two firms and under my own shingle in Boise (business, employer lobbyist, human resources, workers' compensation defense, non-profits, and mediation/arbitration).

But most of my professional career was involved in state or local nonprofit management (Boise; Olympia, WA; Twin Falls, ID), retiring in 2013. My last post

involved directing senior services (Office on Aging) for an eight county area, out of a local college in Twin Falls, Idaho (10 years).

My general feeling about OCS was a humbleness and honor to be with so many talented men. At least 8 of us were together through Basic and AIT at Ft. Ord, CA, plus OCS: Cho, Fields, Hedgepeth, Lee, Martin, Sigurdson, Tyler and Zimmerman.

My proudest moment was when my father pinned on my bars. At the time he was a Marine Lt. Col.; (he served a total of 36 years). Those of us with relatives swearing us in graduated in the morning, while the regular ceremonies were in the afternoon. My father had rank, so I was sworn in first in our class.

Harley V. Finley / 1st Platoon

Harley died on June 10, 2012 in Rome Ga. He served in the Army for 21 years and retired as a Major. After the Army he was a Middle School teacher. See "In Memoriam" page in this website

Richard L. Flamm / 4th Platoon

Died 6/27/2008 in Villa Hills, KY. See "In Memoriam" page on this website

Brian M. Flora / 4th Platoon

My wife Kay and I are healthy and happy and retired in Oak Park, Illinois the home of Ernest Hemingway and Frank Lloyd Wright (America's greatest architect, as he would have told you himself). For her retirement hobby, Kay bought a gourmet olive oil and Balsamic vinegar store. I putter around the village as a full-time volunteer at our Frank Lloyd Wright sites, the Hemingway House, the Historical Society, Pleasant Home (Google it), etc. I help organize (and serve as "orator") for our Memorial Day and Veterans Day observances. Oh, I just retired from my second military career, that of a Civil War re-enactor (Union, of course) after the sesquicentennial observances, where we participated in the re-enactments of many of the most important battles.

After graduating from the Benning School for Boys, I served as a junior officer in a basic training unit at Fort Bragg, North Carolina and oversaw four cycles of trainees. Then in April 1970 came the orders for NAM... IV Corps, Vinh Binh

Province (at the crotch of the Mekong River) where I served in a small village (Tieu Can) on a Mobile Advisory Team (MAT) with a Captain and three NCOs. We tried to organize and train the local PSDF, with which we holed up at night in a mud fort on the edge of the village. Tieu Can was a pretty sleepy place, but we survived a nasty night attack, and took some serious casualties in an ambush on July 4, 1970. I then did a stint at provincial MACV HQ in Tra Vinh. In April 1971, I returned to CONUS. My assignment to Ft. Leonard Wood was cancelled and I was released to six years of reserve duty. I never heard from the Army again, which didn't disappoint me. That was the end of my long and illustrious (?) military career.

After the Army I used my GI Bill to go to graduate school in Boston where I majored in International Relations and met Kay, the love of my life. Kay and I married in 1980, and we became U.S. diplomats, serving for thirty-five years (mostly together) around the world in the Foreign Service. We retired to our home state of Illinois in 2009.

Favorite memory of OCS? It was a pretty grim period for me; I kept a low profile and managed to make it through the cycle in good shape. I enjoyed the moments of comic relief, like our attempts to smuggle in pogy bait, and I still chuckle when I think of the group of hapless candidates who were required to give an according-to-the manual funeral service for a dead cockroach found in a bathroom. They were condemned to re-start the service every time someone giggled.

Paul J. Fonteyn / 1st Platoon

I retired as President of Green Mountain College (Poultney Vermont) in May 2016. Currently my wife Marsha of 43 years (also a vet--army nurse corps) and I are in CA. We also have a home in VT. Our plan is to live six months in Ojai, CA and six in Poultney, VT. Marsha and I have two adult children--son John and daughter Mieke, and one grandson.

After graduating from OCS, I went to Jump and Ranger School. My first and only assignment was the 75th ranger unit at Ft. Carson, Colorado. I had orders for Vietnam, but they were cancelled and while I awaited new orders, I attended HALO (High Altitude, Low Opening freefall jumping) School at Ft. Bragg. There I

had a very bad accident--I broke my neck. 14 months later I received a medical discharge from Walter Reed. Overall I came out of it all in good shape except for some paralysis in my left arm and hand. Nothing to complain about.

Gary L. Foster / 3d Platoon

John Foote / 6th Platoon

I returned from VN (III Corps in what used to be Binh Long Province where I was the most lackluster MAT officer the United States ever sent to war) and went to law school. I have been practicing in the DC area for many years, starting at Justice, through a stint as County Attorney for Prince William County, Virginia — County Seat is Manassas for you Civil War Buffs and I live 7 or so miles from the battlefield. Then into private practice almost 30 years ago. I specialize in zoning and associated litigation.

David Francke / 4th Platoon

I am retired real estate appraiser, and own a self-storage business.

I was paneled out of OCS around the 17th week. I was a clerk typist & Scout Dog Handler in Vietnam. David passed away on 7-6-2023 See “In Memoriam” page on this website

Robert J. Fullmer / 5th Platoon

William A. Fulton / 4th Platoon

Four facets:

1. Happily married 47 years with one son
2. Public service resulting in becoming community leader-2016 Distinguished Alumni EvCC – 10th recognized out of 244,000 alumni
3. Mentor to employee/children becoming adults
4. C.P.A. still practicing at age 70 also own 4 small businesses.

Seven months training officer/XO at Ft. Polk

Assigned to D.O.D in Seoul Korea

Discharged May 1971

Took overseas discharge-spent summer of 71 in Hawaii and ski instructed following winter.

Then followed additional education and career.

The privilege of sharing the OCS experience with quality motivated guys upgraded my life's prospects and lifted me to new horizons. Thanks to all and especially Hartline who got me through!

Frank E. Funderburk / 1st Platoon Frank died on December 5, 2001 in Houston, TX. See "In Memoriam" page on this website

John D. Gardner / 3d Platoon Located in November 2016. He does not want to participate. (Brian Flora)

Richard M. Geib / 1st Platoon Passed away of heart attack on March 31, 2016 in Cape Coral.

Obituary can be found at

<https://www.mullinsmemorial.com/obituaries/richard-mccallum-geib/617>

Richard L. Giddings / 4th Platoon Died in 2008 in Peachtree City, GA where he had lived since 1983. Here is a link to his obituary. See "In Memoriam" page on this website

John A. Gillis, JR / 6th Platoon Died 14 October, 2006. See "In Memoriam" page on this website

Michael D. Gilpin / 3d Platoon

I am retired and living with Nancy, my lovely wife of 44 years, in my hometown of Hattiesburg, Mississippi. It's in the southern part of the state, roughly equidistant from New Orleans and Mobile. We have three children and two grandchildren. I remain active in military/civic events. Much of my time is devoted to my hot rod vehicles...1931 Ford Roadster, 1933 Ford Pick-up and 1934 Ford 5-W Coupe. Nancy and I are really looking forward to attending a

reunion and reconnecting with all of 50th Co. "First and Best." If anyone from the Company is passing through our neck of the woods, we would love to meet up.

After OCS, I was assigned as a Mech Inf Platoon Leader at Ft. Hood. I attended flight school and was later deployed to Vietnam. I flew UH-1s with the 114th Assault Helicopter Co at Vinh Long in the war torn Mekong Delta. I flew the entire IV Corps from Saigon to U Minh and parts of Southern III Corps. Great moment: Mid-air collision during combat assault mission in the U Minh forest. I was flying lead in a flight of five. Received moderate ground fire while departing LZ and chalk 2 flew into my aircraft. Sustained loss of tail rotor, vertical fin, and rear of tail boom. The result was crash with multiple injuries but my crew survived. Unfortunately, #2 crashed and burned with loss of its crew. On one MACV mission I met Gary Foster (classmate) somewhere in the Delta. On another occasion I met Lt Sullivan (TAC).

I was discharged after RVN and married Nancy. I owned and operated a property and casualty insurance agency until 2000. Meanwhile, after a year break from active duty I joined the Mississippi Army National Guard to continue flying. I was recalled to active duty in 2000 and assigned as the United States Property and Fiscal Officer for Mississippi. I retired as a colonel in 2006. For the next eight years, I served as the civilian executive assistant to the Mississippi Adjutant General.

Great OCS memory was being named candidate CO in the very early days by CPT Smith in a lightning change of command during one of his afternoon lectures. (Due to poor bayonet sheet ratings or TAC input?) Survived. Great moment II was graduating while wearing a hip to ankle cast after knee injury during Ranger exercise.

William J. Gist/ 4th Platoon

I retired to Greensboro, NC in 1999 and spend my time with my wife Veronica of 42 years, traveling and playing golf. VERY BADLY.

After OCS, I was assigned to FT. Jackson as rifle range officer and had the good fortune to share an apt with Ken Knudsen. After Jackson returned to Benning for 4.2 Mortar school before deploying to Korea. Initially I was assigned as XO with

the 1/32 infantry company, 7TH Infantry Division at Camp Casey before being assigned to the 2nd Infantry Division on the DMZ as Mortar Platoon Leader. Subsequent assignment with the 2nd was Company Commander of a 2/23 infantry company. Returned to FT. Gordon as primary INFANTRY INSTRUCTOR for Military Police School. Left active duty in 1972.

After the Army, I joined Procter & Gamble in 1972 in a Management position with the Paper Division as Chemical Engineer with the primary duty to develop and manufacture the roll out of Disposable Diapers. During my career of 27 years, I held multiple assignments ranging from plant start-ups across the US & Canada to leading the Strategic Planning & Reliability Engineering for the Division. I retired in 1999.

When I was assigned to Ft. Jackson after OCS I went to a dealership to purchase a car; one of the salesmen was Lt. Hook, one of our trusty TACs. It felt good having him grovel to get me to buy a car from him.

Peter M. Golka / 2d Platoon

Richard P. Goodman / 4th Platoon

I am enjoying retirement (2 years now as of Nov. 2016) in the Charleston SC area with Liz, my beautiful wife of 45 years.

After OCS I was transferred to Armor, went to Armor school at Ft. Knox, then assigned to 2nd Armor Div, Ft. Hood, TX. Received orders for RVN summer of 70. After jungle school in Panama, was assigned to 2nd/34th Armor battalion, 25th Infantry Div. out of Cu Chi as tank platoon leader. After 6 months, transferred to 1st/10th Armored Cav out of An Khe. Returned to states June 71 and separated from army at Ft. Lewis, WA

After the army, took the summer off and met my future wife. Went to grad school for MBA, worked in a family business for about 6 months, and then changed careers to sales/sales management in manufacturing in NC. Retired 2 years ago (2014) and moved to SC. Have son and 2 grandchildren in Raleigh, NC and daughter and 2 grandchildren in Charleston, SC

Charles Granner / 3rd Platoon

After graduation I was able to obtain a branch transfer out of the infantry which may have proven very fortunate. I was assigned to Fort Lee, Virginia, for additional training. From there I went to Fort Lewis, Washington, and ran into another classmate, Tim Moriarty, who became a good friend there until I was assigned to Vietnam in 1970. I always remember that Tim was one of our few classmates who never had to go to Vietnam (as far as I knew). As a range officer he had received a speeding ticket driving the outskirts of the post where ordnance was exploded. When it came time for a "levy" to be issued from the Pentagon his personnel file was on the commanding general's desk as it was mandatory to get a reprimand in person. Thus he missed the whole episode. I lost track of him thereafter. I was assigned to the 34th Aviation Group which had battalions for rotary and fixed wing aircraft maintenance in all of Vietnam.

Some of us were getting a slightly shortened tour there in 1971 but I elected to stay in country a few months longer as I was not interested in coming back to a base as in Fort Jackson or Fort Polk for a short time.

I had not been able to matriculate into law school when the draft loomed over us in 1968 so I immediately started when I got home. It appears that several of you also utilized the GI bill to attend post graduate work. I remember how many veterans there were in my class, most of which had much more remarkable stories to tell than me. I guess we became our own support group of sorts.

I practiced law approximately thirty years and retired to travel and enjoy life. I am not a "facebook" follower and have no plans to relate every detail of my existence online. Regardless of the assurances of privacy made by all I get some sort of inverse pride saying I went through life without ever having a Facebook account. So email it shall be.

When responding to the inquiry as to what favorite memory I have from OCS I can state that enjoying the levity that Kugler provided tops them all. I think we all owe him some token of appreciation as the tactical officers sure picked on him allowing the remainder of us to escape some of the harassment. The next thing was going over to the airborne section of the base and getting to be dropped from the towers.(safety lines attached)

On the other hand I am most often reminded of this which is the most sobering: Michael Hughes was a fellow candidate in our class from Salt Lake City and I

really appreciated his fine character. Early in the cycle Lt. Cross appointed me 3rd Platoon leader and Mike was my first sergeant for that particular period. Some time after that he became discouraged and decided to drop out of our class. He went to dog school at Fort Benning and I remember learning that he had been killed in Vietnam just as his first letter arrived encouraging me to stay in the program. I believe I still have it. I wrote his parents a letter expressing my condolences and how much I thought of him. I have been to see his name on the traveling Wall. I am sure some of you had the same experiences with your former friends

Gordon D. Greta / 2nd Platoon

Gordon D. Greta, 64, passed away May 2, 2011, at Kavanagh Hospice Center in Des Moines. For his full obituary see the Sioux City Journal.com. (RT: MPT 082014)

Gordon served with the 24th Infantry Division at Ft. Riley, KS and later as an advisor to the Vietnamese Army.

After his military service, Gordon entered the University of Iowa and earned a law degree in 1974. He practiced law in Eldora, Newton, and Des Moines, Iowa.

David P. Greuel / 4th Platoon

I am happily retired with my wonderful wife of twenty-seven years, having returned to our native state of Minnesota. Aside from reading only what I want to read, I enjoy an occasional round of golf as well as fly fishing the many streams and lakes for which this state is renowned.

Upon graduation from OCS, I, along with about ten others, was assigned to Ft Carson, Colorado. My initial duty assignment was Recon platoon leader. Then after a brief assignment as a rifle company platoon leader, I was reassigned to Brigade Headquarters as a legal officer, probably because I had a year of law school. To my knowledge, all but one of the other OCS graduates who came to Ft. Carson with me received orders for Viet Nam. Having heard nothing from any of them, I've long been curious as to how they all did with their combat assignments. One fellow officer, not from our OCS company, did return to Ft. Carson following service in Viet Nam after being shot through the face by a

sniper barely a month following his arrival in country. Most of the company commanders with whom I served at Ft. Carson bore scars from their time in Viet Nam. More than one, unfortunately, had received their injuries at the hands of their own disgruntled troops.

In the summer of 1971, I resigned my commission to begin a career in educational publishing. I founded my own company after having spent fifteen years learning the business with a small startup publisher based in the Boston area. A minor stroke prompted me to turn the business over to my nephew in 2010.

In looking back on my time in the army, I have mostly fond memories of the experience as a whole. Like pre-season football practice, basic training and OCS may have been both physically and mentally challenging. But by providing us with the unique opportunity to acquire leadership experience at a relatively early age, I still believe the three years sacrificed were well spent.

Colin J. Grey / 5th Platoon Colin passed away on December 5th, 2019. See "In Memoriam" page of this website for obit.

Samuel R. Hagaman / 4th Platoon

William H. Hagedorn/2nd Platoon Bill passed away 11-3-2021. See "In Memoriam" page of this website for obit.

I was commissioned Military Intelligence. After training at Intel HQ, I was assigned to MACV Team 71 in Nov. 1969. Long Phu district was at the mouth of the Mekong River Delta. I did intel ops with the Police Chief. I was also the operations officer for 9 months, working with a VN Captain and PFs. Our AO was Dung Island and I used swifts based in our district. Seal Team 1, also based in my district, had my mainland. I worked with good people and depended on support. My Major was a Captain Smith type. We finally got a West Point Captain on his first tour in Sept. I did my final 6 months at Intel HQ, and took an early out.

I returned to IBM. Earned an MA in Soviet Foreign policy. I worked in inventory management and corporate audit for 22 years and took an early out.

Problems with PTSD. Now living near Richmond Beach and have a very good non-VA group.

Vague. I still don't like running. I remember goals: 8 weeks, Ranger Week, night compass. I started to learn working together in AIT and OCS, and I am still working on it. I am very proud of my OCS class. My brother was a Marine during TET, and he has respect for us. Very important to me.

Warren H. Hamm

Warren died on May 11, 2002. Read his obituary here:

<http://archiver.rootsweb.ancestry.com/th/read/MIKALAMA/2002-06/1023420875>

David C. Hanner / 1st Platoon

I am healthy and happy and living in Greensboro, North Carolina, my home state. I am mostly retired, but still sell a little insurance and work a part-time "hobby job" as a park ranger at the Guilford Courthouse National Military Park. I quit running when my knees gave me problems, but try to stay in shape by swimming. (I weigh the same as I did when we graduated from OCS!) I also try to play golf on Wednesdays. I still enjoy traveling, especially to see my son in Raleigh and my daughter Baton Rouge and have great fun playing with her three daughters. Please let me know if you live near or in Greensboro or might be coming through my AO. I would love to get together with anyone who experienced OCS along with me.

You can reach me on Facebook as David Hanner.

I took the three-year option and got my first choice, Germany, hoping to avoid Vietnam. I arrived along with another OC 24-69er, David Hipp, and we were assigned to the same battalion 35 miles north of Frankfurt. After almost a year seeing every other lieutenant shipped to Vietnam, I decided to volunteer for Vietnam and get it over with. This was a big mistake (one of many I made while wearing the olive drab) because within months of my leaving, no more lieutenants were sent to Vietnam. So leaving my Fraulein and new-found skis behind, I took off (or should I say "diddy mau-ed") for the land of Marvin the Arvin. I was assigned to 3/187 Battalion, 101st Airborne up in I Corp - the same

battalion that had suffered through Hamburger Hill. The first night I was there, I was sitting in the Officer's club, enjoying a cool one, when we took incoming. I spent the next three months as the night duty officer in the battalion TOC (tactical operations center), when I was assigned as a platoon leader, just in time to join the platoon for Lom Som 719, the last major battle of the war. This wasn't a good time... Google it. While in the field, we were incredibly lucky, I only had to medevac two of my men - one bitten by a poisonous snake and one hit in the head by an exploding, cross-wired PRC-25 radio battery. Both were back in the field in just a few days. Once Lom Som 719 came to an end, I saw in the Army Times that the Army was starting to RIF infantry officers so I made a hand-written request for an early discharge, which was accepted. So just before I was due to have my silver bar doubled, I accepted my PFC designation with honor and was discharged in late July, 1971.

Returning to a rather hostile reception as most of us did, I had a couple of jobs that I didn't like and decided to return to college. Somehow I got accepted into the MBA program at the University of North Carolina, graduating in 1975. I got into the insurance business and started a company in Greensboro, N.C. which I sold in 2006, and moved to the Grand Canyon, then to Aspen, Colorado where I lived as a ski bum for four years. I finally got tired of living below the poverty line and returned to Greensboro, and reestablished many friendships. I plan on staying.

My First Platoon left me with many vivid memories. Most memorable were the people I came in contact with and some of their names still linger in my mind - Donald Tarr (went to Brown and played BB against Bill Bradley, Jim Dupont (also known as DUP who I think was killed in Vietnam), O.B. O'Brien, Candidate Gieb (from McLean, VA or somewhere close to there), a certain hockey player from Minnesota whose name I can't recall, and our primary Tac, commonly known as OD (he even drove an OD 1969 Pontiac GTO). I doubt I was near the top of anyone's bayonet sheet, but then again I probably didn't deserve to be. In fact, come to think of it, I probably didn't even deserve to even be in OCS! But somehow I persevered and was proud to have my mother pin on my gold bars at graduation. About ten years ago, my former company in Vietnam starting having a reunion every two years. I've been to four of them so I'm excited about going to the 50th OCS reunion as well.

Richard F. Harner / 1st Platoon

My wife Louise and I retired 10 years ago (2007) to the small town of Cedaredge in western Colorado where we enjoy traveling, photography, the outdoors and visiting our kids, grandkids and relatives. We had married between AIT and OCS. My daughter was born while I was in Vietnam and my twin boys were born while I was in graduate school.

After OCS I got a branch transfer to the Chemical Corp and went to Fort McClellan, Alabama for chemical officer training. I was then assigned to the 2nd Armored Division, Fort Hood Texas and ran the gas chamber to train troops in the proper use of the gas mask. Think working in a room full of tear gas. From there I went to Vietnam and was assigned to the Quy Ninon support command where I worked in the tactical operations center coordinating security for all the compounds. From there I went to the 101st Airborne Division at Camp Eagle, near Hue. I then worked in the tactical operations center of the division artillery coordinating helicopter landings at the various firebases to avoid being shot down when the firebase was firing. I then got my first command assignment at the 10th Chemical platoon where we made napalm in 55 gal drums to be loaded under helicopters and dropped on enemy locations. After 10 months in Vietnam I was retired from active duty but because chemical officers were a rarity, I spent two years in the active reserves teaching chemical warfare techniques at an Army reserve school in Salt Lake City, Utah.

The Reserve money was good and along with the GI bill helped fund my graduate studies at the University of Utah. I graduated with a doctorate in biology and became an environmental consultant working with an engineering and environmental consulting firm in Denver. Eventually I started my own environmental consulting firm where we consulted on many energy, mining, and environmental clean-up projects in the Rocky Mountain region.

I remember the great training we received in OCS, although at the time I'm sure I thought it was ridiculous. How about toilets and showers that could never be clean enough - one hair and you were in big trouble. How about when Captain Smith spread dirt all over the barracks because it wasn't clean enough prior to the Colonel's inspection. Did you ever get to sleep under the covers of your bed? No. We would keep a sheet in the laundry bag and use it to sleep in so you

wouldn't have to spend time making the bed in the morning. I always felt sorry for the guys who had the wives stay in Columbus thinking we were going to get weekends off. It was 20 some weeks before we got a pass. But I do remember seeing the moon landing on a TV in a Columbus motel with bunch of other cadets. Those were the days! The Army prepared me well for my later life and I can honestly say I have never had so much responsibility as I did when I was in the Army after OCS.

Clyde V. Hartline, JR / 4th Platoon Editor's note: Vernon passed away on 7-13-2020. See "In Memoriam" page on this website for obituary

My wife Lynne and I just celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary. We have 2 children and 4 grandchildren. We live in Dallas, Texas. I am an active Texas practicing civil defense attorney practicing in firm we started 22 years ago now with 3 offices in Dallas, Houston and Corpus Christi < [www,HDBDLAW.com](http://www.HDBDLAW.com) > . I primarily handle products liability cases for automotive and industry related clients.

After OCS, I was assigned to Ft Hood, TX - 2nd 41st Battalion / Mech Inf./2nd Arm Div - Plt leader - then S3 (12 months total)- Then to RVN - MACV - Mobile Advisory Team - III Corp - Tay Ninh Province (where Hwy 1 went into Cambodia) - medivaced to Long Bien after 8 months in the field - then to Okinawa - then early out (but only 3 weeks) Started back to Baylor Law School within a week of return. Finished Law school in 27 months started practice in Dallas in 1973 - still practicing law in Dallas. Cutting the grass with our scissors because the Battalion Commander made some comment about it to the Capt. Or the Moon Landing just before graduation in August. Or someone having heat stroke and we poured their canteen over them and it contained Cool-Aide (sticky).

Michael L. Hasselberg / 4th Platoon

Mike manages a law practice in Peoria, IL

George M. Hatfield / 2d Platoon

I retired in August of 2015 and am enjoying every minute of retirement. Beverly, my wife of 49 years, retired from the classroom in 2012 but is still the cheer

coach at the high school. This will be her last year for that, however. Her squads have won a National championship, a National runner-up and a State runner-up in her 20+ years of coaching. I am operating the ranch (in Oklahoma) which fell in my lap when my Dad died in 1998. The work can sometimes be hard (at age 70!!) but I enjoy it, and it is good therapy for me! I stay involved in church work, Rotary, spend as much time as possible with my grandkids, am a terrible golfer so, don't play all that much. In the fall, we attend the home OU football games...Boomer Sooner. Go Sooners!

After OCS I was stationed at Ft. Hood, Texas where I was the XO of a mechanized infantry company made up of a bunch of guys just returning from Nam, waiting to get out or waiting to return for another tour in Nam. There were several of us from the 50th Co. that got sent to Ft. Hood and I remember watching the Stars and Stripes carrying names of those who were on orders to VN by their OCS class. They went through OC 24-69 and the next 2 classes and still had not given most of us from the 50th Co. orders. What dummies we were to think that we might get out of it!! A supplemental request came down and they went to the last OCS class that had some eligibles in it to fill the request, and guess who that was?! In Nam I was MAT 105 team leader with another 1Lt and 3 NCOs stationed in the central highlands in the old French provincial capital of DaLat. Compared to the rest of VN this was/is a very rich area- 7 growing seasons, very fertile, residents had plenty of food etc. and felt it was easier to give the VC the food they wanted rather than to fight them. Therefore our work with the PSDF was very frustrating. We spent most of our time helping them develop and build defensive positions around their villages (which they had no intention of using!) Our Provincial HQ S-3 officer had to be medevacked back home and they brought me in from the field to take his place. I served the last 4 months of my tour as the S-3 officer. My last day in the army was the day after the plane landed at Oakland from Saigon.

Five days after my return from VN I was interviewed for my first teaching job outside of Tulsa, OK. I taught and coached, was a principal, assistant superintendent and superintendent in my career in the Oklahoma educational system. When my Dad died suddenly in 1998 I needed to move closer to my mother and the closest job I could get was in Denison, TX. So this born-and-bred Sooner sucked it up and moved to Texas. It was a great move! I retired in

August of 2015 after 44 years in education. Along the way I got my doctorate in education from OU.

Memories of OCS are few, but I do remember a few of the men in 2nd platoon whom I learned to appreciate and respect. I remember Thomas Edgren telling us at the 18 week party that he knew he would not make it back from VN. Bless his heart, he was right. My wife and Mike Eberhart's wife shared an apt. during OCS and I never saw it! I remember Lt. Traveline sending Paul Kochis out to find plants to beautify the company area and we took my car to find the plants. Paul was the brains of that operation-I was just the driver. Trimming the grass with our fingernail clippers was really special. I remember that Cpt. Smith wanted us to break the base record in the PT test and that we actually did break it. His response was that we only did what we should have done!! I remember my wife Beverly tapering the legs of the fatigues of several of the 2nd platoon guys...they had to be 17 1/2 inches I think! Of course the Airborne Track, low crawling on the PT field, trying to stay awake in class, spit-shining boots and brass and finally turning Blue and graduating.

Fred K. Hedgepeth / 4th Platoon

Bobby J. Hines / 2d Platoon

After spending 30 years of my professional life in Florida, I retired in 2008 and returned to my hometown in Kentucky. Renewing old friendships has been very fulfilling, as I'm sure it will be in October at Ft Benning. My wife, MaryAnn, and I are avid gardeners, anxiously awaiting each spring to plant the 400-500 plants we grow in our green house during the winter. Yes, we constantly remind ourselves that a hobby is not work, but sometimes it seems a lot like work. MaryAnn also volunteers at the local college, tutoring veterans needing help primarily in English and literature courses.

Having received an Armor commission, after OCS I spent the next two months attending Armor Officer Basic. Several of our OCS classmates were in this AOB class, including Bill Thoroughgood, Dennis O'Brien, and Jim Durkin. Durkin and I were both living in the south Louisville area, and carpooled for the entire two months of training. After AOB, I was assigned to the Armor School, as XO of a support company consisting of 700 enlisted men who primarily taught in the

school. In September 1971, I arrived in Quang Tri Province, assigned to A-1-77th Armor, 5th Infantry Division, (Mechanized). After four monsoon-soaked months as a tank platoon leader, I became the battalion assistant operations officer. Finally, a position befitting a true officer and gentleman. But the life of a real bed, hot chow, and warm showers was not to last. One month into the job, and the entire battalion HQ moved to an old Marine Corps fire support base for the duration of operation Lam Son 719 (two and a half, “did someone yell incoming” months). Didn’t the people in charge know that Armor officers were not supposed to sleep on the ground? Evidently not. Thinking my two month early out was a reward for being such an exemplary soldier, I was quite surprised to find several of our OCS classmates at Cam Ranh Bay, also preparing to come home. I certainly enjoyed reconnecting with two of my second platoon buddies, Larry Blum and Ratko Sikovic.

Most of my professional career was spent in sunny Florida. First working for a large distributor of golf course and turf maintenance equipment in south Florida, and then owning a landscape company with locations in West Palm Beach and Orlando.

I have scores of those “do you remember when.....” memories, but looking back at the OCS experience, I realize what a maturation process that was for me. Viewing through 70 year old eyes, I now understand the priceless value of that experience.

David N. Hipp / 2d Platoon

Editor’s note: David passed away on 5-24-2021 See “In Memoriam” page on this website for obituary

Judith and I are healthy, happy and retired in Cabot, Arkansas. We have enjoyed some travel but not as much as we would like. Judith, after retiring from an extensive teaching career has been able to devote a lot of her time to her love of quilting for family, friends and charities. My primary job since retiring has been to take over a lot of the cooking and “Driving Ms. Judith” wherever she wants to go, which is primarily fabric and quilting outlets. Her sister and a lot of her family live in Arizona and our son, David L., is working and residing in Vancouver

B. C., Canada so we have made several trips to the Northwest. We are looking forward to celebrating our 50th wedding anniversary in July! Wow!

Judith and I discussed at length my career, and I extended my two year commitment to three. We were sent to the Third Armored Division in Germany where I ran into Dave Hanner. I served as platoon leader in a mechanized infantry, 3rd Bn, 36th Infantry, then moved to Support Platoon Leader and ended up as S-4 prior to leaving Germany as a Captain. Three months prior to leaving Germany I received orders for Viet Nam. The day Battalion received the orders was the day I was supposed to arrive in Country. They revoked the orders and a week later the early release program, due to troop reductions, came out and I took these two events as an omen and opted for the early release. I had mixed emotions about this but then another omen presented itself. The Army Warrant Officer in my hometown Army National Guard Unit notified me that the Company Commander's slot was opening up and his superiors had agreed to give me a shot. This kinda sealed the deal for me leaving the active Army and it provided a way to could stay connected to the military.

After processing out, I went home to Magnolia, Arkansas to find a job and join the Arkansas Army National Guard. Before I arrived home, a Captain from Viet Nam arrived to go to college and found out about the open Company Commander slot. He had priority (as rightly he should have) so I searched around the state for another opening with the Guard. I finally decided to check out the Air National Guard located at Little Rock Air Force Base in Jacksonville, AR. They had an opening in supply and saw that I had Army supply experience, so I enlisted in the Arkansas Air National Guard, 189th Recon Group at the rank of Captain. It took seven years as a weekend warrior and working various jobs in Southwest Arkansas before a full time opening allowed me to work full time for the Unit. I worked my way up from supply officer to Chief of Supply to Deputy Commander of Resources to Support Group Commander and retired as a GS-13 Civilian and militarily as a Colonel in 2000. A fulfilling and rewarding career.

As for OCS memories, a lot of them were a blur. Some of the comments from others triggered a lot, such as rock washing, scissor mowing, pogeys runs, seeing my wife during laundry runs, the murals on the walls, but one thing has always

stood out to me; I paid for half an apartment along with Steve Roeder for our wives to live in and only got to spend one night in it. But I am glad they were there for support and for sewing, laundry and goodie runs. Another thing I remembered later in my career was the act of pinning the rank you aspired to attain in the blue helmet liner we wore. I pinned an eagle in mine and later thought, what if I had placed a star! One never knows.

Duane F. Hong Duane lives in Honolulu.

Michael E. Horn According to his wife, Michael died in 2013 of Alzheimer's disease. See "In Memoriam" page on this website for Mike's obituary

Terrance J. Hummel/ 6th Platoon

My wife Wanda and I live on the family farm in Oakland, IA and we love it here. Two of my favorite things are wandering around farm roads in my old Chevy pickup truck with my Bassett Hound (Copper) and raising really good sweet corn for VFW fund raisers. Another favorite thing is Wanda's gooseberry pie.

I retired as LTC, Aviation in September, 1991. Wanda and I have had a great life that includes a son, daughter and nine grandchildren. Our Army assignments took us to Ft. Hood, Texas; Ft. Wolters, Texas; Ft. Rucker, Alabama; Ft. Riley, Kansas; Ft. Bragg, North Carolina; Ft. Benning (Infantry Officer Advanced Course & Airborne Course); Ft. Richardson, Alaska; Ft. Drum, New York and FT. McPherson, Georgia. We also lived in Heidelberg, Germany for three years while I coordinated NATO and bi-lateral exercises in 17 countries throughout Europe and North Africa. (Wasn't home very much.) Wanda supported me from afar while I served in Vietnam with the 62nd Corps Aviation Company (Dec 1970 - Dec 1971) and while I was attached to Headquarters, 3rd U.S. Army (ARCENT) serving as ARCENT Deputy Aviation Officer in Saudi Arabia during Desert Storm/Desert Shield (Sep 1990 - Apr 1991).

My longest career since Army days was as Pottawattamie County, (1,000 square miles, population 90,000) IA Emergency Management Coordinator for 15 years. Wanda's favorite post-Army-wife occupation was as a fourth grade teacher at Central Christian Schools, Omaha, NE.

I was in the 6th platoon. LT Hook was our TAC Officer. I can not remember the reason I missed the platoon group picture day, but I have vivid memories of members of the platoon. Wanda (my wife) started out as a "camp follower" for the platoon, as she faithfully hauled laundry for me, Mansky, Sutton, Tackaberry, Pascua and four or five others for the entire six months of OCS. She drove a metallic blue, 1964 two-door hardtop Ford. One of my favorite memories is the night I called her and asked her to go to McDonalds and buy something like 60 or 70 cheeseburgers and hamburgers with half as many large orders of french fries and other junk food for her to deliver at the parking lot south of the 50th Company barracks. The pogy bait was to be deposited in an empty (somewhat clean) garbage can. Two guys from the platoon smuggled the garbage can up to the top floor where the 6th platoon lived. We would have got away with that one clean, but the greasy smell of McDonalds lingered in the barracks all night.

Donald W. Huskins / 6th Platoon

Editor's Note: Don passed away on 10-13-2019 See "In Memoriam" page on this website for obituary

I am a retired country lawyer in Eatonton, Ga. Two sons and 5 grandchildren within walking distance of our home. I am happy. Have some agent orange issues, but no regrets. Glad I served.

My wife Sylvia died 8/15/06. We had just returned from our 40th anniversary cruise through Northern Europe. It was pancreatic cancer.

I enjoyed making fun of Capt. Smith. It's a miracle that Gary Bottoms and I weren't brought up on charges for the routines we put together and performed. Not to worry. Capt. Smith got me in the end. Payback is Hell. Sylvia and I were so excited when I got orders for The Old Guard at Ft. Myers Va.. Our first Sgt., can't remember his name, called me into his office. He suggested that I sit down. He handed me new orders that rescinded Old Guard and redirected me to serve as a TAC in our battalion. He got me good. I'm not sure if it was worth all of the laughs I got at his expense. I'd say I'm sorry, but it is too late and it would be a lie.

In Vietnam I was assigned to Advisory Team 19 out of Quang Tri and for my last several months was team leader for MAT I-10. Just 5 of us. 2LTs and 3 Senior

NCOs. Their function, as I observed was to keep the LTs alive. Damned good men.

John R. Jay / 5th Platoon

Let's see now, at age 71 there is this talk about dementia. And I was about to----
-oh yes, 48 years of blissful marriage to Linda, 3 kids settled into marriages, jobs, community, and church in Columbia Falls, Montana. Four life changing grandkids that live too far away in Phx, central CA, and Northern ID. In this nebulous state of 'tired-ment' we wonder how there was ever time for full time work! What with part-time forestry consulting, maintenance at the local Salvation Army thrift store, arbor work, tending to elderly neighbors, and a few trips..... the passing weeks just vanish. Not many health issues, a couple new ceramic hip joints have survived my first marathon, numerous humbling 'yard sales' on the local ski hill, and many days of enjoying Montana's hunting and fishing opportunities.

Whew, and it was only 6 months! After declining an invitation to try out for ranger school, there was a branch transfer to combat engineers. I was expecting to go over to 'Hot and Humid' to build roads and bridges and maybe use C-4 for something other than heating up rations. At that point the vagaries of testing and Army intelligence took an experienced logger, equipment operator and welder and assigned him to an ADM unit. For those of us that still don't comprehend acronyms, that stands for Atomic Demolition Munitions. Okay, I'll be all right with that. Show me how to blow up big things! Three months of training at Ft. Belvoir and Linda and I were off to Fairbanks AK with everything we owned in the back of a ½ ton pickup (including the motorcycle). It was 18 months of Arctic maneuvers, rock and ice climbing, building ice bridges, roads, and primitive air strips, blowing up ice bridges and ice jams, and constructing cabins in Native villages. All the while, many of my OCS barrack mates were soaking up Agent Orange and dodging 'incoming'. Too many didn't come home. The irony of it has shadowed my days for 47 years.

Seeing the career paths posted to date is like reading Who's Who in America! What an honor to have had this 6 month relationship with such a group. For me it took nine years in corporate life and working towards an MBA to realize I was better suited for life as a 'worker bee' and to be the one to 'turn out the lights'.

In 1980 an old school chum and I started a small logging company. Later came milling and consulting with at one point about 30 employees. A precipitous event during this time was rededicating my life to Christ which allowed me to escape some bad habits. After 37 years the last of the heavy equipment has been sold. With great expectations I look forward to casting aside the '5 to 9' work schedule and fill the days with volunteer work, continuing education, grandkids, hunting and fishing, and travel with the best house mate ever.

In no particular order* low crawling *hundreds of pushups *NoDoze by the dozen *chiggers *the all-consuming drive to 'start slow and finish fast' to get one of those branch transfers *changing uniforms several times daily *roof duty, as in aiding and abetting the furtherance of the distribution of illicit calories. However, as mentioned by others, the frustration is realizing just how much memory of the 6 months has vaporized.

Guy M. Johnson / 4th Platoon

Believed to have passed away in 1996. No obituary found.

Douglas M. Jorgenson / 1st Platoon