

OC24-69 50th Company May 2025 – AT EASE!

Hello 50th Company:

I hope everyone is well and finally starting to enjoy some decent weather.

REUNION NEWS:

As you have probably heard, our contract with the Hilton Garden Inn/Redstone Arsenal has been finalized. Our financial guru Scott Davis has determined how much we need to collect to cover expenses. This year our reunion fee is only \$220 per person, which is considerably less than previous years. And it provides quite a bit more bang for the buck. For example, this year it will cover a second group dinner, including a cocktail hour. The package includes a “special” buffet breakfast (i.e., including grits) each morning. The group rate for the room (\$149 plus taxes) is a bargain. I know it’s our tendency to procrastinate, but to help us with planning, please reserve your rooms and send in your reunion fee as soon as possible. If something comes up and you are unable to attend, there will be no hotel penalty (up until the last day), and the reunion fee will be refunded if you so request. Make your reunion fee check out to Scott Davis and mail it to his home: 94 S. La Senda Drive, Laguna Beach, CA 92651.

A lot of planning has gone into this event, which promises to be one of our best. Please consider joining us in Huntsville, October 5-7, with an optional extra night (October 8) for those who wish to hang out with 50th Company classmates for an extra day. Please keep an eye on your email in-box for updates and info. And remember, it is all saved on our 50th Company website.

Just a thought: This year, consider inviting a good friend to sign up for the reunion and join us as honorary 50th Company member. I’ve done this for the last two years. Spouses are always welcome. Or what about inviting a son or daughter? Brian Flora remembers how special it was to join his Dad at First Infantry Division reunions in Europe. And not only is the Huntsville Space and Rocket Center a world class tourist attraction, but getting to know comrades from your distant past will help friends and family better understand what made you what you became.

By the way, as of today we have ten classmates registered, so we’re off to a good start. Please consider joining us.

CLASSMATES OF THE MONTH:

We have three classmates (that I know of) who deserve special recognition.

Our very own Scott Davis has been selected by the OCS Alumni Association to receive its prestigious Nett Award (its highest honor) at the Association's annual reunion in June. This is definitely a big deal, and Scott is doing 50th Company proud.

John O'Shea represented the OCS Alumni Association at wreath-laying ceremonies at the Vietnam and Korean Memorials in Washington, D.C. on Memorial Day. We have a page on our website where we post Association news, and you are encouraged to take a look at. Way to go, John!

Finally, Brian Flora again organized his hometown's Memorial Day Ceremony. In his "oration," he remembered the sacrifices of those who made V-E Day (the WWII victory in Europe) happen, 80 years ago this month. His Dad was part of it all. BTW, I read Brian's speech and highly recommend it as a concise account of the end of the war in Europe. You can find it on the Welcome Page of our website.

Well done, men. Keep up the good work!

WEBSITE:

If you aren't already doing so, please take a look at our website from time to time. Just go on the internet and google "50thCompanyOC24-69," and it pops right up. For such a small group as we are, we get a surprising number of outside visits to our site each month. Kudos to our Webmeister, Bob Hines, for managing and maintaining it. A visit to the site is like taking a step back fifty-six years in time. But it also keeps you in touch with our classmates, our reunions, and what everyone is up to today.

MAY 30th:

Finally, May 30th is an important anniversary for many of us. Fifty-four years ago, on the 30th of May, or thereabouts, many of us came back to the "World" from Vietnam. Fittingly, in May, 1971, the government moved the date of Memorial Day from May 30 to the fourth Monday in May, making it a three-day weekend. It makes it tough not to remember our DEROS date. (How many out there remembered what that acronym meant without having to look it up?).

Thanks to Brian Flora for his comments.

Until next month, Stay Well, Stay Healthy and above all else, Stay Positive.

Lou Lallo