



Vinh Long Outlaws Association (VLOA)

"www.vinlongoutlaws.com"

Vinh Long Outlaws Summer/Fall 2023 Newsletter

May-August

The VLOA is a 501(c)(19) nonprofit, tax exempt war veterans' organization.

2nd/3rd. Quarter 2023

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National Director's Corner

By- **Bob Allen**



The summer has passed quickly and Labor Day has been celebrated. I, and the other officers and Directors at large, have continued to focus on Celebrate our 60th details and have just about everything in place. We are looking forward to an exciting and enjoyable time in Nashville, and especially because we get to celebrate with those we have shared much history together.

We are staying at the Inn at Opryland, which is very close to the Old Opry and other shopping and dining experiences. This hotel is being completely remodeled as I write. It has installed new carpeting and lighting throughout, has reconfigured each room with thicker, sound deadening doors, and has reconditioned and updated each guest room as well. The great news is we established our reunion pricing based on the previous accommodations so we got a bargain in the process!

Our excursions have also been set ahead of time and we have taken advantage of those price points for you as well. We will be visiting and touring Andrew Jackson's home, The Hermitage, and will have a special wreath laying ceremony and service there. Additionally, we will be enjoying a fabulous, lunch cruise on the General Jackson steamboat, and we will be spending a wonderful night at the Grand Old Opry, with special seating for the 175th! In between, we will have time to discover downtown Nashville, other museums and attractions, spend time on your own or with friends, and also enjoy special time for the ladies.

We have coordinated with companies to assist in our enjoyment of the 2024 reunion. Later this year and into January, you will receive email contact with updated information and preview pricing options to attend.

(Cont. on Pg.2)

OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

Bob Allen, - National Director
Columbus, Ohio.

Ivan White- Deputy Director
French Village, MO.

Doug Wilson, -Secretary
Costa Mesa, CA

Frank Estes, -Treasurer
Ozark, AL.

Bob Sharp, -Newsletter Editor.
Albert Lea, MN.

Phil Van Alst, -Web Master
Hau'ula, HI.

Ernest Isbell, -Chaplain
Denton, TX..

Jim Donnelly, -Historian
Virginia Beach, VA.

Ernie Isbell -Mem-At-Lge. (64-65)
Denton, TX.

Walter Cieslak- Mem-At-Lge (66-67)
Darian, WI.

Eric Ragsdale, Mem-At-Lge (68-69)
Mesa, AZ.

Position Open, Mem-At-Lge (70-71)

Fred Rosenberg, Mem-At-Lge (72-75)
Leesburg, FL.

Lorie Hausenfluke M-At-Lge (03-08)
Hedenheimer, TX.

Terry Khachadourian, Distaff Adv.
Lilburn, GA.

Tom Anderson, -Permanent Advisor.
(1998-2023), Spfld, VA. (Decd.)

Al Iller -Ex. Offico (2000-2002)
Fayetteville, AR.

Ernie Isbell, -Ex Officio(2002-2004)
Denton, TX.

Tim Bisch, -Ex Officio (2004-2006)
Huntsville, AL

Joe Clelan, -Ex Officio (2006-2008)
Mechanicsburg, PA. (deceased)

Frank Estes, -Ex Officio (2008-2010)
Ozark, AL.

Bob Koonce, -Ex Officio (2010-2012)
Tacoma, WA.

Angelo Spelios, -Ex Officio (2012-2014)
Weatherford, TX.

Larry Jackson, -Ex Officio (2014-2016)
Hilton Head Island, SC.

James Donnelly, -Ex Officio (2016-2019)
Virginia Beach, VA..

Bert Rice-Ex-Officio (2019-2022)
Odenton, MD.

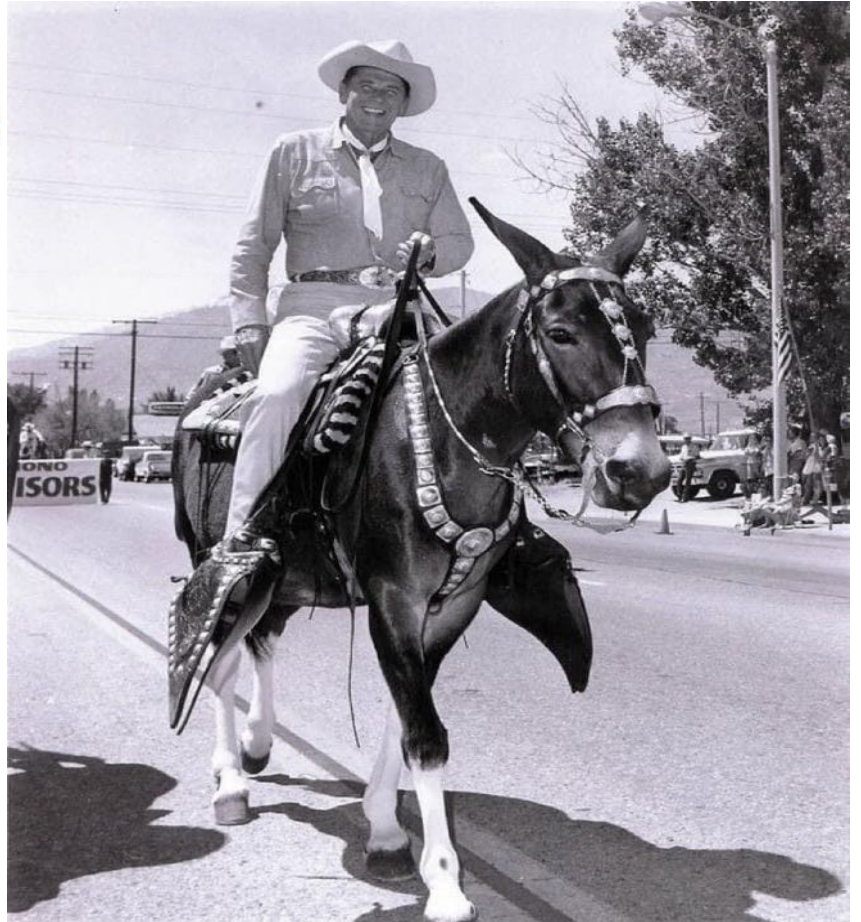
(Cont. from Pg.1.)

Our hope is to make Celebrate 60, the most enjoyable and affordable reunion to date. Please take advantage of this special time and set your calendar for September 22nd, through the 26th, 2024.

Please stay in touch with those unit members that are close to you. They may not get the emails or the other contact information about the reunion so I ask you to share with others as you receive more notices in the future. In the next newsletter we should be able to produce a daily, reunion event schedule for planning purposes.

In closing, please enjoy the fall season and all the experiences your family will share as you celebrate thanksgiving and Christmas. I wish a healthy end of the year for each of you and all good things for the future.

Bob Allen, National Director.



One of our favorite Presidents riding one of my favorite animals— a mule !

VINH LONG OUTLAWS ASSOCIATION (VLOA) Financial Statement - 7/31/2023

Balance effective 01/01/2022		<u>\$37,130.31</u>
REVENUES:		
Dues - Annual	\$400.00	
Dues - Life	\$200.00	
Bumper sticker sales	\$124.50	
TOTAL:	<u>\$724.50</u>	
EXPENDITURES:		
Newsletter, reunion shirts, reunion management, bank statements	\$2,698.82	
TOTAL:	<u>\$2,698.82</u>	
CASH BALANCE - as of 7/31/2023		
		<u>\$35,155.99</u>

Details: 7 months period ending 7/31/2023

Revenues Detail

Bumper stickers - Tina Lightner	\$24.50	
Donation - Carl Hess	\$100.00	
Sub-Total	<u>\$124.50</u>	

Dues: - 2023

Annual Memberships (AM): - 2023

John Salzer	\$25.00	
Eddie McGuire	\$25.00	
George Arnold	\$25.00	
John Diamond	\$25.00	
David Hicks	\$25.00	
Jon Elsea	\$25.00	
Bob Sharp for 8 honorary members	\$200.00	
Harry Bauman	\$25.00	
William Rhodes (by Gregaricus)	\$25.00	
Sub-Total	<u>\$400.00</u>	

Lifetime Memberships (LM): - 2023

Joe Gossom	\$100.00	
Roland Ferland	\$100.00	
Sub-Total	<u>\$200.00</u>	

Patriot Lifetime Membership (PLM) - 2023

	\$0.00	
Sub Total	<u>\$0.00</u>	

TOTAL REVENUES - 7 months period 2023

Expenses Details

Bob Sharp - 4th Qtr 2022 - Newsletter	\$839.72	
Bob Sharp - 1st Qtr 2023 - Newsletter	\$843.74	
Bob Sharp - 2nd Qtr 2023 - Newsletter		
Bob Sharp - 3rd Qtr 2023 - Newsletter		
Reunion shirts - Jim Donnelly	\$628.26	
Shipping awards	\$128.10	
The Military Reunion Network for reunion management	\$250.00	
Paper bank statements	\$9.00	
TOTAL EXPENSES - 7 months period 2023	<u>\$2,698.82</u>	

INCOME (LOSS) - 7 months period ending 7/31/2023		-\$2,698.82
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FUTURE OF THE VINH LONG OUTLAWS ASSOCIATION (VLOA)

by Frank Estes

I guess you could say that the Vinh Long Outlaws Association (VLOA) is approaching its "twilight years" of life. This subject has bubbled up at the last two Outlaws' Roundups, and will probably take on more importance at our Nashville Roundup in September 2024. Organizations such as ours depend on two fundamental items: membership levels and financials. The purpose of this article is to provide you food for thought on these two things.

Our current roster provides a comfortable feeling that we have a huge membership. That is good. Our roster has 617 names listed in the categories of Annual Membership, Associate Membership, Life Membership, Patriot Life Membership, Honorary Membership, and Honorary Life Membership. However, these categories must be broken down in order to see how healthy the VLOA is membership-wise.

Here is that analysis:

Total members on roster: 617
 Active members: 498
 Honorary members: 95
 Active members (bad addresses): 13
 Honorary members (bad addresses): 11

Of the 498 Active and 95 Honorary members:

Annual dues paid at least once: 56
 Annual dues never paid: 241
 Life Member dues paid: 208
 Patriot Life Member dues paid: 6
 Honorary Member donation: 54
 Honorary Life Member donation: 28

Eight of the Annual Dues paying members renewed their membership this year, which leaves 289 members (58 percent) who have not paid dues for this calendar year. 241 (39 percent) annuals dues members on our roster have never paid dues. That equates to a potential annual revenue of \$6,025. That would be more than enough to cover for the quarterly newsletters, annual website hosting fees, annual domain name fees, and administrative costs of running the VLOA.

Additionally, 289 who have not paid dues are still being sent the *Outlaws Newsletter*, which costs the VLOA \$1,053 annually to send these non-dues paying members copies of the *Outlaws Newsletter*.

Please do not misinterpret what is being said. The VLOA has not stated a requirement that a member must mandatorily pay annual dues, but has taken the position that as long as the VLOA is financially sound, it would send all members on our active roster a copy of the *Outlaws Newsletter*. However, the VLOA has a history of strongly encouraging all those listed on the roster to support the VLOA by paying annual/lifetime dues. If the VLOA is not able to continue receiving sufficient annual revenues, the first place to be cut will be those who are not paying their annual/lifetime dues will not receive a copy of the *Outlaws Newsletter*.

While membership is vital to the keeping the VLOA alive, the financials are equally important. Annual resources come from a number of streams: memberships dues (which are declining), donations (which are scarce), Anderson Silent Auction (now our principal revenue), and the 50/50 Drawing (which is holding its own).

It is foreseeable that membership levels will be declining in the coming years for three reasons: no new members to find, members fail to keep their personal information up to date (no way then to contact them), and deaths of current members. It is also foreseeable that our financial streams will begin to dry up because fewer members will be paying dues, and fewer members will be attending our biennial Outlaws Roundups.

However, the sky is not falling. The VLOA is in good financial position to last for quite a number of years, if it can continue to get over 100 members to attend our biennial Outlaws Roundups. Our treasury can remain in good condition as long as individual members contribute items for the Anderson Silent Auction, attend the Roundup, and spend money on the Auction and 50/50 Raffle.

Additionally, we can take efforts to find "lost Outlaws," contact those who are not paying dues, and look for other innovative means for increasing revenues, such as emailing the *Outlaws Newsletter* to as many members as possible.

In closing, the VLOA is in good shape both in level of membership and financially. However, we should maintain our efforts to keep up our standards of the *Outlaws Newsletter*, website, and Outlaws Roundups. So, I strongly encourage you to seriously consider saving up and attending the Outlaws Roundup in September 2024. You will see more on that in upcoming *Outlaws Newsletters*.

OUTLAW 6 LAID TO REST IN ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY

by Frank Estes

COL (Ret) Tom Anderson, the original Outlaw Lead passed away on April 7, 2023, and was laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery (ANC), Washington D.C. on Thursday, August 31, 2023. He, with the support of many other original Outlaws, was the founder of the Vinh Long Outlaws Association (VLOA) and its Permanent Advisor from the VLOA's beginning in 1998 until his death. He truly loved the VLOA and its members. It is an understatement to say that he will be missed by many who came to know him as a humble, generous, wise, and caring person.

Jim and Vicki Donnelly and I attended Tom's burial ceremony at ANC, along with over 60 of Tom's family and friends. The ceremony began in the Fort Myer, VA Old Post Chapel, with music by the pianist and flutist, followed by the Chaplain's celebratory remarks. Eulogies were rendered by Doreen and Greg Anderson, Becky Gordon, and Dino Equi. After scripture readings, a homily, and the Lord's Prayer, the assembled members and friends move outside to form the procession. Upon exiting the Chapel, one could see an amazing sight: from left to right stood the hearse, a black stallion regaled with Cavalry bridle and saddle with spit-shined Cavalry boots placed backwards in the stirrups, a 15-member Army band in dress blues, a 21-member platoon of soldiers in dress blues with M-14 rifles and bayonets fixed, the honor guard with the U.S. and Army flags, and lastly a second 21-member platoon of soldiers in dress blues with M-14 rifles and bayonets fixed.

The procession moved through the ANC hills and valleys for over 30 minutes (at a soldier's marching pace) to arrive at Tom's burial site. There the Chaplain made final remarks, followed by a 21-gun salute, and Taps played by a distant bugler. I've seen a lot of flag folding portions at military burials, but this one brought goose-bumps with its speed, accuracy, and professionalism. After the U.S. Flag was presented to the family, many of us moved to the casket to pay our final respects.

As I walked back to our vehicle, I was moved by the 360-degree scene; white granite headstones as far as the eye could see. Then, I noticed a young woman sitting huddled next to a headstone; arms wrapped around her legs, head resting bowed on her knees. Displayed so vividly before me was the price our country pays in the lives of men and women for the freedoms our society gets to experience. We should never take it lightly that our freedoms come at a very high price. Any United States service man or woman buried anywhere in the world is deserving of this kind of ceremony.

A final note. We all owe Ann McCoy a huge, huge "THANK YOU!" for being there for Tom during his final years. He suffered much more than many of you know, and Ann's presence surely relieved Tom of much of his difficulty and anxiety with living through his final days.

Thomas E. Anderson



October 19, 1930 - April 7, 2023

*Old Post Chapel
Fort Myer, Virginia
August 31, 2023*

Rest in peace, my commander, friend, and confidant. I will never forget who you really were to me as a soldier and friend. The words in Tom's funeral program tell us how he wanted us to celebrate his life:

*"If my parting has left a void,
then fill it with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss
ah yes, these things I too will miss.*

*Be not burdened with times of sorrow.
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My life's been full, I've savored much;
good friends, good times,
a loved one's touch.*

*Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,
don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your hearts and share with me,
for God wanted me now,
He set me free."*

DAV– Disabled American Veterans.

How many of you VLOA members know anything about this organization? How many of you belong to this organization? How many of you have a disability rating? If you have a disability rating why do you not belong? I know everyone has a reason or an idea but do you truly know anything about them? I ask these questions because I feel that it is important that you become a member as they can help you with a multitude of issues.

My name is Bob Sharp and I am the VLOA Newsletter editor. I have many different titles and jobs including being the Commander of Chapter 16 of DAV of Freeborn County, Albert Lea, MN.56007.

One of the many things we do is we work with your Veterans Service Officer who is the first person you should contact if and when you need to file any claim with the Veterans Administration.

We see to it that any veteran that needs assistance getting in and out of their home and to VA medical appointments gets help and a ride. Some are in wheel chairs or bed ridden or have limited mobility. We help them!

We also are in contact with the VSO and he calls day and night after he has vetted a veteran that is in need. We give them gift cards so they can get something to eat for them and sometimes their families that have no bread or milk for the kids breakfast in the morning before they go to school. We also provide them with a motel room if they have no money and are waiting to get assistance from MACV. PTSD is a terrible factor when you have a family that is down on their luck and having nothing puts the stress on and wears the patience thin.

We help veterans get set up in a new home. We just had a woman vet that lived in Florida and had her trailer home have the roof torn off by the wind and all her possessions destroyed. Having nothing, she grabbed her daughter and drove to Minnesota where her older children lived and got into a house here with no furniture and bedding. Our Chapter jumped in and got her some chairs and a couch and we are connected to a Minnesota based personal charity and they are called Wooden Hearts. They are a couple who made good in business's in California and Nevada, have retired and continued to want to share their good fortune by building a furniture factory and they make complete oak bedroom sets and they, when contacted will load up a bedroom set complete with mattress and bedding and will deliver it to the veteran. FREE OF CHARGE! We make monetary donations to them to help our veterans.

Cont. from pg. 6

We are able to help our veterans because we have an on going fund raiser that we work at every week all year long. Even during our cold winter season. We have 12 large clothing donation bins. We have two very nice new trailers that we use to transport the items that we collect from the bins that the members of our community donate of good useable/clean/slightly used clothing. We then coordinate with the State Department of the DAV and they have a exclusive contract with The Savers Stores in Minnesota to provide them with goods to stock their stores. It is like a thrifty outlet where anyone can buy clothing and items to use in their homes and clothe their families at an affordable price.

We do on an average of anywhere between 5,000 and 7,000 lbs. of goods EVERY week and we deliver them to the metro area stores rain or shine, sleet or snow, icy roads and what ever Mother Nature hands us. (Nearly 300,000#/year)!

We have a good number of helpers and they are all disabled vets with various afflictions. Bad backs, missing a leg, cancer victims, TBI, you pick it they have it. BUT, they still show up to volunteer! When the trailer is loaded and there is an appointment to go to Minneapolis suburbs it takes a driver with a good truck plus three volunteers to ride along and unload when they arrive. The carts are weighed and I get a load slip and we get a check from the Department that is based on so many cents per/lb.

We then load up and on the way home the chapter rewards the volunteers by buying them lunch at their favorite eatery (usually Cracker Barrell). We then do the 100+ mile trip home and the day is pretty well shot. We clean the bins out and do it over again! Thank God for our volunteer veterans!

Cont on pg. 8



Cont. from pg. 7

I could go on forever because I am proud of what my people can do and do every week. And all they get is a Thank You! from me and the good feeling they get when they are helping out their fellow comrades!

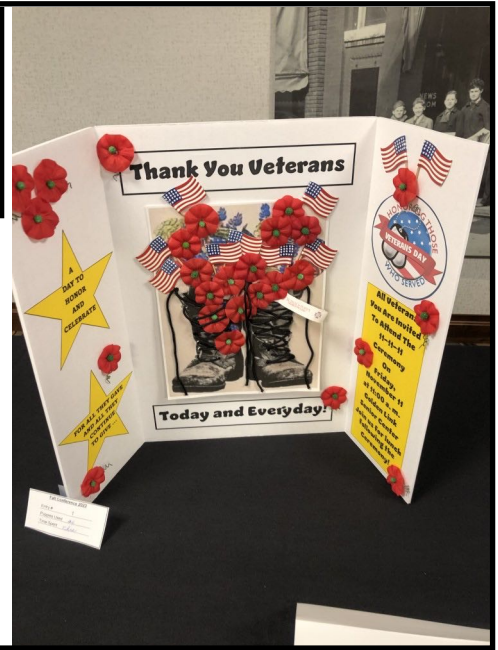
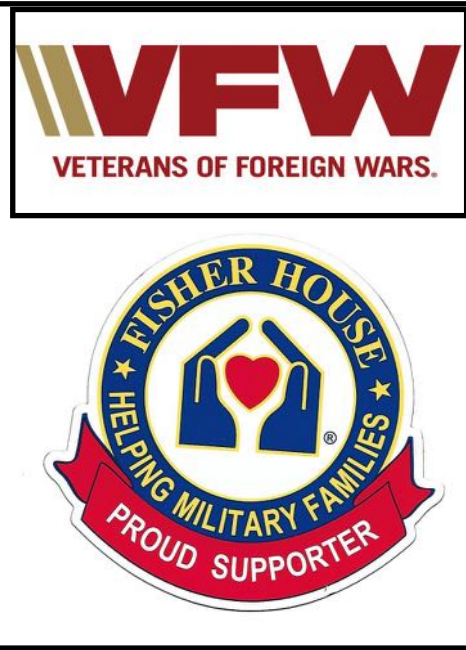
We sponsor youth baseball and help the Boy Scouts. Every spring at graduation time we give out 4 youth and 4 adult scholarships of \$+,000.00 each to students in the medical field that are members of a veterans family. We donated \$+,000.00 each to 5 veterans homes and an adult day care at the VA in Minneapolis, MN. for their activity fund's for the veterans.

I guess what I am saying is if you can you should join The DAV, or any of the other veterans organizations , American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars of which I belong to also. Have you ever heard that there is strength in numbers? Well, it is true because any bills or laws passed to help the veteran are decided by how many members there are to convince the law-makers to back us. The more there are the stronger we are. I have participated in Veterans Day On The Hill by chartering a bus and taking as many vets as I can muster to go the State Capital to meet with the legislators and the Governor and we have accomplished some awe-some results! When you stand in front of them and make them accountable and hold them to what they have promised to do and don't let them back down because saying and doing are two different things.

I encourage you to participate if you can. Thank you for listening to me and write your own story so I can put it in this newsletter PLEASE! We would love to hear from you!

Bob Sharp.





I wanted to share with you all some very beautiful Poppy displays that were at the Minnesota State VFW Fall Conference that I attended this past weekend in Rochester, MN. They had all kinds of training seminars and updates and they had a Exhibition Hall and there were people there from the Red Cross, Veterans Homes, and many outfits that cater to and take veterans on hunts and fishing trips free of charge. The reason I bring this up is there was a young lady there that was the administrator of a place called The Fischer House. This is affiliated with the Minneapolis VA Hospital but is funded by donations and run by volunteer help.

As Cmdr. of VFW Post 447, Albert Lea, and of DAV Chapter 16, I hand carried a \$+,000.00 donation to the VA for the Fischer House to support their work for the vets and their families. I had not stayed there but just recently a close friend had a hip replaced and stayed overnight and ate there. He raved about how nice it was and how one refrigerator had meals prepared to heat up and another had salads of all kinds, another had deserts galore, another had ice cream and things. All free of charge to veterans and their families that need to stay. He stated there was a lady there that her husband was waiting for a lung transplant and she had been there for two months. She stated that she was blessed as she could not have afforded to stay anywhere that long. What a blessing to have and I relayed that to the Administrator and I will be going back with more support. There are many places that help vets but we just don't get the word. If you do, please pass it on!!



Freeborn County Fair.

I do not know how many of you have ever been to a County Fair but I hope you all have had the chance to enjoy going to one. County fairs date back to the early days when settlers would have just one time during the summer to come to town and visit and display their wares and produce that they had raised. The Native Americans did the same thing for hundreds of years and they came together to trade horses by the thousands and played games and visited and traded crafts.

I was approached by a group of people that were in charge of decorating the Floral Hall and their theme was the 60's and covered everything including the Viet Nam War. They asked if I had any memorabilia from my military past and if I would share it as all the vets they knew no longer had any things to contribute.

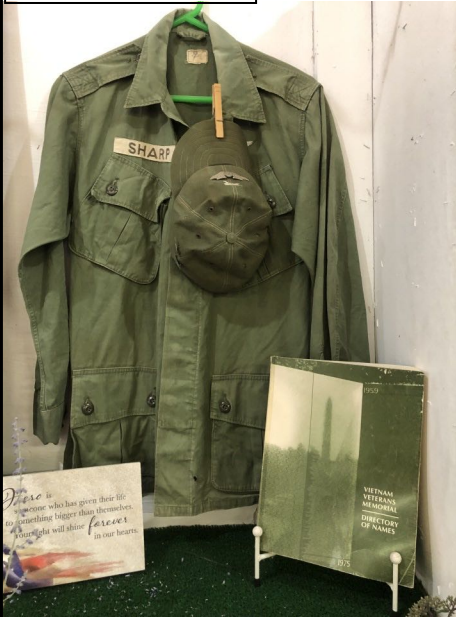
Well, I am different than most as I never part with much. I have everything I got from Uncle Sam from my pay vouchers, shot records, Geneva Conventions card, Selective service card, you name it I got it. The only thing I can't find are my jungle boots and I believe that I wore them out as I wore them to work outside after I came home.

I dug out a lot of things and hung them up and took them in for them to display and they were very happy that I shared with them. I had a couple of paintings on silk. One black and white and one colored that I brought home for my wife Bonnie. I got transferred to Soc Trang to complete my tour and I crewed White Tiger-9 until it was brought down and destroyed and then I crewed Gold-Tiger 6 for the CO. I sent home a little blue jacket for my little brother with embroidery on it and my mother gave it back to me just a few years ago. Long time ago. My mother is gone now and my baby brother is 63 years old.

(Cont. on pg.11)

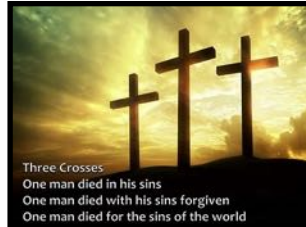


Cont. from pg. 11





The Back Pew



This has been a hectic time for Linda and me. On March 9th, 2023 our daughter Cheryl Isbell, age 60, suffered a massive stroke that paralyzed her left side. The stroke was caused when she received a phone call from the Portland Oregon police department telling her that her son, Clayton Roszel was found dead in his apartment. The date of death could not be determined. Cheryl is recovering the best that can be expected, but she will need therapy for the next several months. Linda and I have moved into her home and we are providing as much care as two 82-year-olds can provide. FYI for those not aware we are located in Denton, TX, a suburb of the Dallas/Ft Worth area. Feel free to give me a call if you are in this area, at 214-529-3778.

My email is colernie@gmail.com.

And Then There Were Two:

About three weeks ago Linda suffered the same kind of stroke that our daughter Cheryl suffered. Around midnight I heard Linda making noises that alerted me to the prospect that she was very ill. Cheryl's care nurse checked Linda's blood pressure and it read 270/120. I immediately called for the medics and fire department and they arrived quickly. They were outstanding and whisked Linda to the nearest hospital. I followed and caught up with them in the emergency room where the doctor showed me the x-ray of Linda's brain. She had suffered the same blood clot that our daughter experienced when told of the death of her son. The medical care at Linda's hospital was outstanding in getting things under control and thankfully her condition is not as severe as Cheryl's. As I am writing this revision to the newsletter Linda is scheduled to be sent to an advanced care center that's very close to this home. Prayers are welcome for both Linda and Cheryl.

Wow, with that introduction as a beginning, I have decided to provide some levity for this portion of the periodic newsletter that Bob Sharp so expertly provides for all of us.

(Cont. on pg. 13)

Cont. from pg. 12

The following are real comments from KIDS IN CHURCH-----

A little boy was heard praying:

“Lord, if you can’t make me a better boy, don’t worry about it. I’m having a real good time like I am.”

A Sunday School class was studying the Ten Commandments. They were ready to discuss the last one when the teacher asked if anyone could tell her what it was. Susie raised her hand, stood tall, and quoted. “Thou shall not take the covers off the neighbor’s wife.”

After the christening of his baby brother in church, Jason sobbed all the way home in the back seat of the car. His father asked him three times what was wrong. Finally, the boy replied, “That preacher said he wanted us brought up in a Christian home, and I want to stay with you guys.”

A wife invited some people to dinner. At the table, she turned to her six-year-old daughter and said “Would you like to say the blessing?” “I wouldn’t know what to say, the girl replied. “Just say what you hear Mommy say, the wife answered. The daughter bowed her head and said, “Lord, why on earth did I invite all these people to dinner?”

A Sunday School teacher asked her children, as they were on the way to the church service, “And why is it necessary to be quiet in church?” One bright girl replied, “Because people are sleeping.”

And with these bits of levity, I remain your,

Vinh Long Outlaws Chaplain,

Ernie Isbell.

Thank you.

Ruth Doyle**9/12/1936—4/9/2023**

Ruth Doyle was the wife of the original Vinh Long Outlaws Chaplain Mr. John Doyle. He served in that volunteer capacity for many years and we are grateful. May they both rest in peace together. God Bless.



Ruth Doyle, age 86, Inverness, FL passed away April 9, 2023 under the loving care of her family and Vitas Hospice. Ruth was born in Rocky Mount, NC on September 12, 1936 to the late Tommy Farmer and Mary Howell Farmer and moved to Florida in 1997 from Oak City, NC.

She was a retired Registered Nurse. Ruth graduated as Valedictorian from Rocky Mount High School and ultimately earned her Associate's degree as a Registered Nurse at Middle Tennessee State University. She had a long career as a nurse including her favorite time spent with hospice patients.

Ruth's passions included traveling with her beloved husband, raising her three girls, reading as many books as she could in a year, and was always devoted to her Christian faith.

She is survived by her two daughters: Denise (Rick) Watson of Palm Harbor, FL and Becky (Ogle) Warfield of Deland, FL; two sisters: Betsey Raper and Amy Thomasine Farmer, both of Rocky Mount, NC; five grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 63 years, John Doyle and her daughter, Susan Doyle. Graveside services are scheduled for Monday, April 17, 2023 at 1:30 PM from the Florida National Cemetery with family members officiating. Burial will follow. The Chas. E. Davis Funeral Home of Inverness, FL is assisting the family.

Edward Ferdinand

Otten

12/14/1945

—

05/23/2023

In Loving Memory of



EDWARD OTTEN

Memorial Service
 Friday, August 18 at 1:00 pm
 Sacramento Valley National Cemetery
 5810 Midway Road, Dixon, CA 95620

Celebration of Life
 Saturday, August 19
 Double Tree by Hilton
 Junior Ballroom (Bayside)
 275 South Airport Blvd, South San Francisco, CA 94080
 Lunch Buffet starting at 11:30am



**He flew as the
 Crew Chief on
 Outlaw-16.
 1966/1967.**



David Michael Osborne, age 78, of Marysville, Washington passed away on Thursday, July 27, 2023.

He flew as a Door/Gunner on Maverick – 31. 1967



Evergreen Washelli Funeral Home
& Cemetery

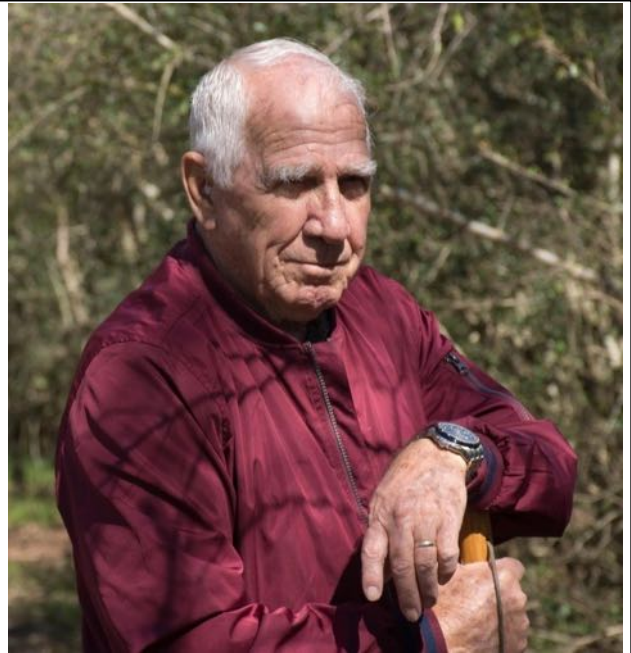
Of Seattle, Washington.

Will be handling the services in the near future to be announced.

Thank you.

Therman Allen Farley, Sr.

January 14, 1941 ~ November 19, 2021 (age 80)



Visitation for Therman Allen Farley, Sr., 80, of Garrison, will be from 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM on Sunday, November 28, 2021, at Laird Funeral Home. Graveside service will be held at a later date at the National Cemetery in Houston. Therman Allen Farley, Sr., known as "Shorty" to those closest to him, was born in Grafton, West Virginia January 14, 1941. The son of Roy and Rosa Belle Farley.

Therman enlisted in the United States Army in 1958 and served honorably for 9 years. During his time in the Army, he met and married the love of his life Frances Yvonne Lee on January 11, 1960. His service includes duty stations around the United States with a deployment to the Republic of Vietnam where he was awarded two Air Medals.

After being honorably discharged from the United States Army, he entered private industry. As a self-made entrepreneur, he and his wife started two separate successful companies over a fifteen year span eventually retiring to enjoy the fruits of their labor. Therman's love of adventures in the great outdoors and sport fishing led to a life of travel around the United States in their recreational vehicle with his favorite dog, Fox. Therman's gregarious nature impacted people from every walk of life and their travels led to developing lifelong relationships which endure to the time of his passing and beyond. He had a passion for people, country music and an infectious zest for life. He made everyone and everything he touched better.

Therman leaves behind his daughter Eleanor Farley Reed, with granddaughter Victoria Ryan Crouse (expecting the first great grandchild) and husband Scott Crouse; his son Therman Allen Farley, Jr. (USA ret. MAJ) and his wife Janet Farley, with his granddaughters Frannie Farley and Terrie Farley; his daughter Sharon Kay Heyman and her husband Lawrence Farley Heyman, with his granddaughter Haley Ann Heyman.

He was a loving devoted husband, dedicated father, proud US Army veteran and American Citizen. He will be dearly missed. To [send flowers](#) to the family or [plant a tree](#) in memory of Therman Allen Farley, Sr., please [visit our floral store](#).

**Randolph Stuart
Diuguid****Raleigh, North
Carolina****Age 74.****Died 08/11/2023.**

Randolph Stuart Diuguid “Randy” died on August 11, 2023, age 74 years. Born in Wilmington, North Carolina, on November 19, 1948, the son of Blanche Heyser Diuguid and Frank S. Diuguid, Jr., he grew up in Raleigh, was active in the Lutheran Church and in the Boy Scouts of America, achieved the rank of Eagle Scout, and graduated from Broughton High School in 1966. Randy was an avid reader. Beginning in his youth, he had a keen interest in theology and, particularly, the teachings of Martin Luther. He retained an intellectual curiosity throughout his life.

He attended ECU for one year prior to enlisting in the US Army. He trained as an aircraft mechanic and an air traffic controller before being selected for Army Flight School. In March 1969, he graduated as an officer and pilot, and was assigned to the 175th Assault Helicopter Company in Vinh Long, Vietnam, in the Mekong Delta. Randy flew over 1,082 flight hours in combat and was shot down by the North Vietnamese one mile from the Cambodian border in November 1969. After the war he served a year in Stuttgart, Germany, and returned home where he was decorated at Fort Bragg in May 1971 with the Bronze Star, the Air Medal for Heroism, and with the Army Commendation Medal for his war-time service and for the medical evacuation of wounded in Vietnam.

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Randy flew with the NC National Guard while continuing his education at NCSU. For the next forty years, he continued in aviation, flying helicopters, turbo-props, and jets all over the globe. He believed in and helped pioneer the LifeFlight concept and spent a significant part of his life saving lives through helicopter medical evacuation. He also flew the SKY 5 TV helicopter from 1982 to 1984. He aided in the development of safe TV helicopters and the use of microwave, reporting from the cockpit, and filming from the air, as well as beaming local news nationally via satellite. In 1984, only five helicopters in TV news nationwide had this capability--SKY 5 was one of these. Safety was his overriding concern, even at a time when the helicopter industry ran up the worst accident record in aviation history. His helicopter flying encompassed all uses of the helicopter.

Trained as a test pilot, he spent five years as a pilot flying for offshore oil in the Gulf of Mexico; two years flying off a tuna fishing vessel in the South; fought forest fires in the West, and with the NC Forest Services in 1985; three years as a dedicated LifeFlight pilot; and two more years flying cardiac care LifeFlight—the highest level of helo-medical care.

He was a Captain and Chief Test Pilot for the only helicopter airline in the world, Pan Am Helicopter Airways, flying over New York City. In 1986, he was the recipient of an Air Ambassador award for five consecutive life-saving Life-Flights in one day in Tampa, Florida. Overall, he logged over 8,800 flight hours without an accident.

Randy is survived by three brothers, Frank “Scot” Diuguid, III, of Bracey, Virginia; William H. Diuguid and Bruce D. Diuguid, both of Raleigh, North Carolina; and preceded in death by his brother Douglas T. Diuguid.

A graveside memorial service with full military honors will be held at Raleigh Memorial Park, Raleigh, North Carolina, on August 26, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. The attendance of veterans and other service members and the general public, in honor of this veteran’s service to our country, would be greatly appreciated.

For additional information or for service details, please reach out to the family directly.

Vinh Long Outlaws Association (VLOA)
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Summer/Fall—2023

Vinh Long Outlaws Association (VLOA)
Membership Application/Renewal Form

Memberships in the VLOA is open to any person of any rank who served with any lineage unit known as the “Outlaws” (and “Mavericks” and “Bushwhackers” armed platoons) or any affiliated unit at any time between August 1964 and the present. These units include the 62nd Aviation Company, A Company 502nd Aviation Battalion, 175th Aviation Company, B Troop 1-158th Aviation Regiment (Iraq), 150th Transportation Detachment (“Roadrunners”), 28th Signal Detachment, and 25th Infantry Division’s “door-gunners.”

Active (with vote) or Associate (without vote) Membership is \$25 annually, payable each January. A Lifetime Membership (with vote) is \$100 one-time dues. A Lifetime Associate Membership (without vote) for spouses and relatives is available for a \$100 one-time donation. A Patriot Lifetime Membership (with vote) is available for a one-time \$500 or more dues. Current Lifetime Members may upgrade to a Patriot Lifetime Membership for a one-time \$400 or more dues.

To pay initial or renewal membership dues for this calendar year, please complete and forward this form, with dues payment, to:



VLOA Treasurer: c/o Frank Estes, 407 Country Club Drive, Ozark, AL 36360.

First Name _____ MI ____ Nickname _____ Last Name _____

Telephone # (home) _____ (work) _____ Spouse’s Name _____

Address: _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Rank (while assigned to unit) _____ E-Mail address _____

Dates assigned in Outlaws/attachments (Mo/Yr to Mo/Yr) _____

Unit/platoon/section/position _____ Radio Call sign _____

- Please initiate ___ or renew ___ my Active ___ Associate ___ VLOA membership. **Make \$25 check payable to VLOA**
- Please initiate my Lifetime ___ Lifetime Associate ___ VLOA membership. **Make \$100 check payable to VLOA.**
- Please initiate my Patriot Lifetime ___ membership. **Make \$500 or more check payable to VLOA. Current Lifetime Members make \$400 or more check payable to VLOA.**

_____ Please do not renew my VLOA membership, but keep my name on the VLOA roster. I understand I may not receive any future issues of the VLOA Newsletter unless I am a current dues paying VLOA member.

_____ I know a former Outlaw/Maverick/Bushwhacker/Roadrunner or other affiliated unit member and have indicated his/her name, address, and phone number on this form.

Comments: _____