

# ***Bravo Regulars***



**B Company 3/22**



***Vietnam Service***

December 2007

## *Merry Christmas*



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## Presidents Message

By  
Ted Silberies

Season's greetings to you and yours.

I hope this finds you all busily preparing for the holiday season. This is the time of year when we reach out and reconnect with our friends and family – especially to those we seldom see or hear from. We'll send a greeting card, maybe make a phone call or send an email. As you do this, please remember to contact the members of Bravo Company and their families as well. It's so easy to get caught up in our busy lives and lose sight of these special relationships.



Lets stay connected and while doing so encourage each other to attend the reunions. You don't need to wait for a Co. B reunion to get together. Many of us meet up with those in our area or while traveling. A brief side trip can be a great experience.

How many times have we stopped to remember those who we have lost since our last reunion? When Bakke attended the Shingle Springs reunion in '98 who could have guessed he would not be around to attend another? Do you remember the last time you spoke with him, or Louis Phillips or Randy Schick?

Our roster is a great resource for making contacts. Especially now, during this holiday season, look it over and reach out to someone you served with or that you haven't seen or heard from in a while. If you notice information (including your own) that needs to be updated I'm sure John Otte would like to hear from you as well.

2008 is going to be a great year and our reunion in July should not be missed. John Gority has worked hard putting together a fantastic program for us. The only thing that would improve it is if you attend, so get your reservations in early.

Seeing you all in July will be great, but for right now I'm spending Christmas here in San Jose with the family and a very special New Year's Eve in Florida. I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Ted





# Chaplans Message

*By Ted Rowley*



During the Civil War if a soldier was caught sleeping on guard the punishment was death by firing squad. How many of us would never have made it through Vietnam? For at one time or another I'm sure we all nodded off once or twice. I do recall a particular incident, early on in my tour in 1966, on a night ambush in the Macon Delta. One of our guys lay on his back snoring, as I nudged him for the third time to lay on his side and quite snoring he was quite adamant he wasn't snoring. It was no longer an ambush, it was a mere listening post now, or a target to draw enemy mortar fire! It was dark in an instant we heard noise, we pitched a grenade, the sound of a water buffalo bellowing split the darkness. Probably being herded down the dirt road by the V.C. to find out where we were, the VC version of a mine sweeper. Our bedfellow was wide awake now, could have cost us dearly. I wonder if he ever hears cows bellowing in his sleep? I pray he made it through Vietnam.

This story is about a 18 year old Civil War boy who fell asleep on guard and was sentenced to death by firing squad for that. His father went to Washington to get a pardon from President Lincoln, and tried as he may could not get to see the President. As he sat outside with head in hands crying, at his wits end, he felt a hand on his shoulder, it was a young boy who asked what was the matter? The man explained to the boy the situation and the boy said to wait 15 minutes and he would see what he could do. After 15 minutes the man was about to leave giving up when he felt a hand on his shoulder, as he turned it was Abe Lincoln himself, the man's son was spared from the firing squad. The lesson being the Father can be best reached through the Son. A lot to be thankful for.

My father is 93 now, still drives a car and plays a lot of cards. I have a lot to be thankful for Mr. Jack Vessey now also about 93 years was out there with us at Soui Tre 40 plus years ago. This man, at 51 years like a father to all of us young guys about 20 years old, stood as a man among men at Soui Tre. I didn't know three years ago at the Richmond reunion if I really thanked him for being there for me, but at this thanksgiving time of year I reflect back to the Hero's of that battlefield, my comrades both living and gone.

My daughter Michelle, a teacher of 3rd graders has been sending out vets cards for some years now, off of our address list at random. Some guys respond to the kids, General Jack Vessey did this year with a beautiful card and response. I unknowingly reached a great father through my daughter, I am blessed and honored to have served with such a caring man!!

I at age 20 didn't know what a beehive round was, but seeing balls of red, orange, and yellow fire go by my fox hole within a few feet made me fight harder for I then knew I had a chance to live. A memory burned into many of our minds for ever, but remember hell would be even worse so live your life here on earth accordingly. John 3.16 for God loved the world so much He gave His only Son so that everyone that believes in Him may not die but have eternal life"

On Thanksgiving day our youngest daughter Maria gave birth to a beautiful little 7lb. girl, Macy Nikole, a cute little turkey I must admit, I am so blessed. I owe a lot to Mr. Jack Vessey and the brave men of the 77th artillery both living and deceased. I would say the 77th artillery suffered the most KIA's at Soui Tre or Bamboo Creek. When I walked back to the guns after the battle those brave men were laying all around those guns, it brought me to tears. John 15.13 Greater love has no man than to lay down his life for his friends, Such Great Friends!!!!

At this special Christmas time of year I get on my knees and thank God for all my blessings. To all you guys my comrades a Christmas Thank you for all you did for me. Such Great Friends!!

With God's blessings to all!!  
Your Chaplan  
Ted

## Association Officers

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### REUNION 2008 HOST/CONTACT

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## Veterans Encouraged to Salute the Flag

WASHINGTON, D.C. - U.S. Senator Jim Inhofe (R-Okla.) recently praised the passage by unanimous consent of his bill (S.1877) clarifying U.S. law to allow veterans and servicemen not in uniform to salute the flag.

Current law (US Code Title 4, Chapter 1) states that veterans and servicemen not in uniform should place their hand over their heart without clarifying whether they can or should salute the flag.

"The salute is a form of honor and respect, representing pride in one's military service," Senator Inhofe said. "Veterans and service members continue representing the military services even when not in uniform. "Unfortunately, current U.S. law leaves confusion as to whether veterans and service members out of uniform can or should salute the flag. My legislation will clarify this regulation, allowing veterans and servicemen alike to salute the flag, whether they are in uniform or not. "I look forward to seeing those who have served saluting proudly at baseball games, parades, and formal events. I believe this is an appropriate way to honor and recognize the 25 million veterans in the United States who have served in the military and remain as role models to others citizens. Those who are currently serving or have served in the military have earned this right, and their recognition will be an inspiration to others."





## Reunion Update - July 10-13, 2008

### Accommodations

#### **Holiday Inn Express \*\*\*\***

The daily rate for this special events week is \$104.96+ tax per room. This rate includes our complimentary Express Start Breakfast in the morning as well as a microwave, refrigerator and complimentary snack in all rooms.

For Reservations call: 814 944-9661  
Fax: 814 944-9557

Cancellation date: June 19th 2008

#### **Super 8 Motel \*\*\* 1/2**

The daily rate for this special events week is \$58.00+ tax per room.

For Reservations call: 814 942-5350  
Fax: 814 944-5350

Cancellation date June 1, 2008

#### **Quality Inn \*\*\***

The daily rate for this special events week is \$69.00+ tax per room.

Swimming Pool

For Reservations call 814 944-4581  
Fax: 814 943-4996

Cancellation date June 1, 2008

### **RV Camping**

RV camping at the reunion site available  
**NO FACILITIES**

### **Camping with Facilities**

#### **Wrights Orchard Station Campground**

2381 Old Route 220 North  
Duncansville, PA 16635  
814 695-2628 [www.wrightscampground.com](http://www.wrightscampground.com)

#### **Weimer's RV Sale, Rentals & Camping**

297 Spencer Creek Drive  
Duncansville, PA 16635  
814 695-0932 [www.weimersrv.com](http://www.weimersrv.com)  
Fax: 814 695-8189

### **Air Transportation**

Contact the following airports for flight Information:

**Pittsburg International Airport**  
2 hr. drive to Altoona  
[www.pitairport.com](http://www.pitairport.com)

**Harrisburg International Airport**  
2 1/2 hr. drive to Altoona  
[Www.flyhia.com](http://Www.flyhia.com)

**Bravo Regulars 2008 Reunion - July 10-13, 2008****Reunion Registration Form**

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

There will be (number) \_\_\_\_\_ in my party.

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Bravo Company, Vietnam Unit and dates of service: \_\_\_\_\_

Names of those accompanying you: \_\_\_\_\_

I plan to arrive on (date) \_\_\_\_\_ I will depart on (date) \_\_\_\_\_

I will travel by (means of travel) \_\_\_\_\_

I will be lodged at:

\_\_\_\_\_ Holiday Inn Express

\_\_\_\_\_ Super 8 Motel

\_\_\_\_\_ Quality Inn

\_\_\_\_\_ Other

**SEND REGISTRATION TO:**

**John Gority  
803 Kelsy Lane  
Duncansville, PA 16635**

**Reunion Registration**

Early registration will be a great help in the planning of the upcoming reunion. Please register as early as you can so that we can make plans that accurately reflect the number of people planning to attend. Registration fees will be: \$60 per person, \$100 per couple, children 17 and under free. We don't need the registration fee for a while, but if you will be attending, please send in your registration form as soon as possible.



## FINANCIAL REPORT

SEPTEMBER BEGINNING BALANCE	\$10,715.15
Income:	\$390.00
Expense:	\$4,651.91
SEPTEMBER ENDING BALANCE	\$6,456.78
OCTOBER BEGINNING BALANCE	\$6,456.78
Income:	\$1,494.25
Expense:	\$0
OCTOBER ENDING BALANCE	7,951.03
NOVEMBER BEGINNING BALANCE	\$7,951.03
Income:	\$31.62
Expense:	\$142.50
NOVEMBER ENDING BALANCE	\$7,840.16



### A STATUE NEAR THE WALL

Somewhere near the wall there should be  
for all the world to see.

A statue of a soldier carved from stone.  
Dressed in full battle gear as he stands all alone.

Toward the wall he should be faced.  
On his cheek a single tear should be placed.

To honor the million tears that he has cried.  
Tears for all the men with whom he served and his friends that died.

The pain in his eyes should show  
so that all the world can know,

The troubled years since that he has faced.  
Remembering his friends whose names on the Wall have been placed.

Concealed inside his chest  
a golden heart should rest.

Once filled with fear and anger  
now filled with love for those that shared his danger.

So Lord build us a statue and please build it high  
and inscribe these words for those who pass it by.

On this hallowed ground I proudly stand  
watching over the names of my friends whose souls now rest in God's hands.

BOBBY M. KILLOUGH  
B 3/22  
2nd Platoon - 8-67/68

## Early Arrival Gettysburg Tour

John Gority is trying to put together a tour of The Gettysburg Battlefield. The tour would consist of bus ride from Reunion site to Gettysburg (2 1/2 hours), a guided bus tour of the battlefield by bus, and bus ride back to the reunion site.

The tour would be Wednesday July 9, 2008, and will be an all day affair. The tour will cost \$40.00 per person. Space is limited to 48 passengers.

We need to know by January 31, 2008 if you wish to take the early arrival Gettysburg Tour. Please contact John Gority at (814) 935-0220, or jfgority@aol.com. By January 31st.



Paul James  
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937 834-9954

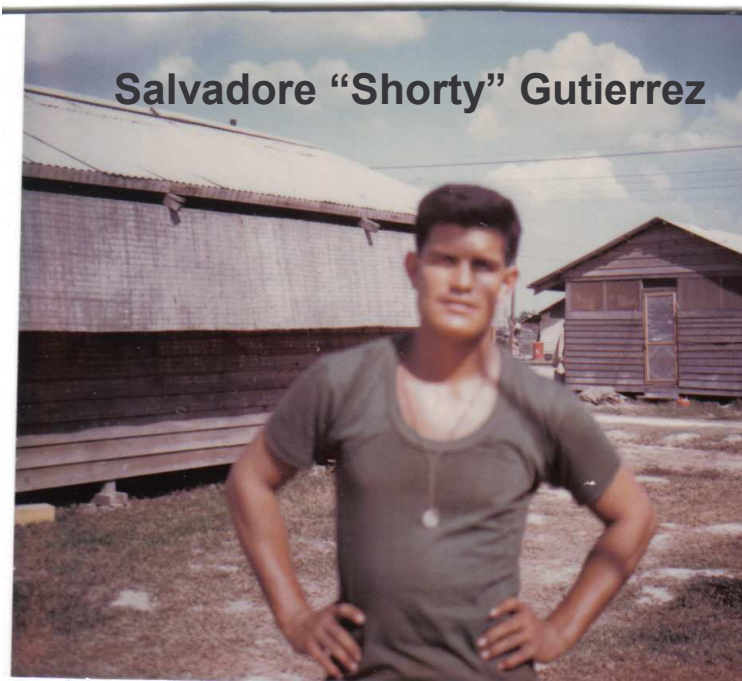
4th Platoon  
7-67/68

## Soui Tre - Presidential Unit Citation

For those of you that were at Soui Tre 40 years ago (March 21, 1967) you were awarded the Presidential Unit Citation for that battle. It does not show up on your DD214 because it was not signed until Sept. 23, 1968. You were all home by then. You can apply for a "Correction to DD214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty" What this will do is correct your DD214 to show you were awarded the Presidential Unit Citation. Most everyone that I have talked to are unaware of this. The Presidential Unit Citation is the second highest award America gives, the Congressional Medal of Honor being the highest. This is something that you earned, the Government, will send you this Medal and update your DD214. You need to fill out a "Requesting Replacement Medals, Awards, and Decorations". This is form SF180. You can get the  
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These from the VA or online at <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/replacement-medals.html>  
Fill out the form (about three minutes) letting them know you never received this award. Sending a copy of the Presidential Unit Citation, print a copy of it from the Triple Deuce and mail in.



Photo's from  
Salvadore "Shorty" Gutierrez  
4-68/69 →  
↓

