

Bravo Regulars



B Company 3/22



Vietnam Service

www.bravoregulars.com

June 2015



**Memorial
Day**
*Never Forget
Ever Honor*



Remember -
our fallen heros.
They are the reason
that we are free.

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www.bcamptime.com



In Memory

Bravo Company 3rd Battalion 22nd Infantry



COMBAT CASUALTIES

12/18/66	William J. Madsen	08/19/67	Baxter H. Ellis	05/14/68	Edward D. Crow
	Scott S. Webber	09/26/67	James R. Watanabe		George L. Mundy, Jr.
12/21/66	Edward L. Brock	10/22/67	Larry R. McDuffie	09/11/68	Eldon D. Coldren, Jr.
	Marvin T. Hughes	11/01/67	Louis E. Armstead		Lonnie E. Lundy
	William D. Mullins		Bertmann E. Miller	09/20/68	Daniel B. Persons
	Norman Toennies	11/28/67	Darrell H. Morey	01/16/69	Roger A. Dixon
	Vincente Zuniga	12/02/67	George L. Duplessis		Giuseppe Magri
01/21/67	Louis J. Wandler	01/02/68	Odell Stokes, Jr.		Randall J. Wicklace
03/19/67	Marlin C. Eversgerd	01/15/68	Kenneth R. Howell	02/23/69	Scott M. Sibson
	Jack M. Gosnell		Ernest T. Martin	03/12/69	Franklin M. Lanier
	Robert L. Linn, Jr.		Thomas R. Watts	04/13/69	Louis Castro
	Paul J. McGowan		Charles W. Irby		Roger W. Hood
	Louis Sas		Richard H. Walker		Michael D. Howard
	Donald L. Schroeder	01/31/68	Luey V. Holland	05/11/69	David A. Trinkala
	Donald W. Walters	02/10/68	Robert R. Gray	06/06/69	William M. Crusie, Jr.
	Rodney R. Weed	02/19/68	Donald P. Roemer	08/08/69	Bruce A. Eamick
	Thomas J. Dando		Bobbie E. Sikes	10/05/69	Walter J. Hogans
	Fred H. Patterson		John E. Milanowski		Elvis E. Mullen
03/21/67	Herman E. Anders, Jr.	02/23/68	Louis A. Martinez	10/25/69	Florencio Q. Marquez
	Matthew D. Atkins III	04/12/68	Edward C. Beckwith	01/30/70	Luis A. LeBron
	Kenneth G. Blanton		Alan P. Butkus	02/16/70	George O. Boatwright
	James R. Hintz		John E. Cunningham, Jr.	03/28/70	Bobby G. Swanson
	Brian F. Gibbons		Robert W. Ellsworth	08/31/70	Gary R. Metz
	Charles R. Goodwin		William E. Maxwell		James E. Duckworth
	Charles R. Greer		Robert L. Melton, Jr.	10/02/70	William I. Allsbrook, Jr.
	Virgil M. Ledford		Glenn L. Moller, Jr.		Bruce J. Stickel
	Edward J. Muller		Reynaldo N. Orozco		David F. Tinsey
	Larry L. Warnock		David Strupp		Jimmy W. Westbrook
04/01/67	Allen S. Mican		Donny G. Tidwell		Kit Carson Scout Bui V.T.
04/08/67	Jimmy C. Harper		Douglas R. Weiher	11/02/70	Stephen J. Kaster
04/10/67	Salvadore M. Nava		Billy J. Brown	11/13/70	Robert H. Gumm
06/02/67	Albert Graham, Jr.				
07/06/67	Jerry R. Beebe	05/14/68	Richard G. Beck, Jr.		

POST-COMBAT PASSINGS

1970	Joe Rennison	Jim Bakke	Michael Nordstrom	2010	Alvin Bess
	Charles W. Long	Charles Burns	John A. Bender		Marion Hiers
	David Reyes	Tommy Harris	Edward Nidy		Tommy McKamey
	David R. Stalker	Peter McKenney	Frank Blue		John Brockman
2003	Tex Richards	John Glass	James Jones		Richard Prairie
	Roscoe Greene Jr.	Larry Jenkins	Louis Phillips	2012	Robert Hemphill
	James Clark	Leroy Gregerson	Randy Schick		Terry Shipley
	Tom Vargo	Ernest Menchaca	Gary Reynolds		Jose Cosme Rivera
	William Mosley	James R. Rhone	John Howe		Robert Ryan
	Gary Patton	Charles Dearden	William Samson		Darryle Funk
	Anthony Giavonni	Franklin Benhart	Jack Gainey		Pete Heald
	Hector Rosado	John Medicinetop	Ted Davis	2013	Curtis Daniels, Jr.
	John Ellison	Roy Davidson	Alfred Warmesley		Albert Comeaux
	Lawrence Baughman	Robert Gregory	George Hicks		Joseph Mafort
	Charles Sheldon	Nolan Adams	Roger Beegle		Nolan Price
	Robert S. Schlegel	James Genoff	Charles Rock	2014	Allen Peteet
	Larry Augsburg	Cornell Brown	Larry Thomas		Peter Trapino
	David Blanton	John J. Roche	Gary Tetting		Norm Bergsma
	Wade McGowan	Gerald Lyda	Robert Duncan		Roger Clements
	Mark Rowan	Waraner Surphin	Steve March	2015	Frederick Barlow
	Douglas Wartella	Larry Eason	Charles Putman		Ernest Williams
	Dwight Jessup	Allen Lavigan	Richard Wood		Frederick Gray
	Herbert Pruitt	Frank Roberts	Ernie Rice		Charles Ellis
	Joe Lappie	James L. Roedel	Allen Bateman		



Ted Silberies
President
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President's Message

Greetings Bravo Brothers,

The National Infantry Museum in Fort Benning, GA will be the site of the dedication of the 22nd INF memorial on June 23rd. I'd like to encourage any of our Bravo Company members who are able to attend to please do so and report back to us in the next edition of the newsletter along with any photos. I was hoping to head back there myself but find it's just not going to happen.

Our unit can use your help to help facilitate communications. PLEASE be sure to notify us when you have any change or correction of address, phone, and/or email. Area codes and zip codes have been changing with population growth and more and more people are dropping their land lines in favor of cell phones. Dave Lowell has done a good job trying to keep up with changes but he's not a mind reader. He always has a sheet for updates at our reunions, but don't wait till then to let us know.

In this issue of our newsletter you will find a registration form for our next reunion. I encourage you to fill it out and mail it in as soon as possible. While reunions are a great place for us to reconnect with each other, I recommend you don't wait for one. In the past we've looked forward to seeing and talking with old friends only to find they recently passed away. Unfortunately, we've already lost four members this year that I'm aware of.

In closing, I hope those of you in Texas, Oklahoma and other areas hit by unexpected flooding and storms are safe and well. Believe me when I say we would gladly take a portion of your excess water here in California if only that were possible.

Till next time,

Ted



A picture of Ron Rowley and I taken in March. We hadn't seen each other in over 45 years. He lives in Florida now and tells me he and his wife will be attending our next reunion, as will Sonny Szejbach and his wife.



Editor's Notes

David W. Lowell
Editor
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Welcome back, Bravo Brothers! Once again it is my honor to present you with a copy of our updated Memorial Page to commemorate the passing of our fallen Bravo Brothers.

Thank you, Walt Shugart (C.O. 1/67-4/67) for the great report on the Suoi Tre reunion and memorial. Also, thanks to Dennis Amily (1st Plt. Orig.), Mike Detmer (1st Plt. Orig.), Paul Heimann (1st Plt. Orig.), Don Schulte, (1st. Plt. Orig.) and Slim Trame (4th Plt. Orig.) for attending with Walt on our behalf. Details are on the Bulletin Board.

We have a request for information about combat casualties from another unit operating with Bravo Company on 31 January 1970. Those serving with us at that time, please read and respond if you can. Anyone not internet connected may make contact through me if desired. Details are on the Bulletin Board.

Bradley Hull (22nd Infantry Regiment Society Registrar) is sorting through conflicting information on a possible casualty of ours, regarding Vincent Torres, KIA 4 January 1967, possibly involving "accidental M-79 discharge by another soldier" on or near that date. Anyone with information on this incident or recollections of serving with Vincent Torres is asked to contact Brad at bradhull@juno.com or 440-871-8975 or 398 Douglas Drive, Bay Village, Ohio 44140-2302.

Bob Garland (3rd Platoon 3-67/68) made local news for his community work preparing and installing a flag drop. Details on the Bulletin Board.

Blair Moran (Co RTO 1969/70) was very busy in the Sikeston, Missouri area participating in a Moving Wall Ceremony as well as other Memorial Day activities. I wish I had more room for all his credits and photos. On behalf of vets, thanks for all your good work.

With deep sadness, I must report the passing of four of our Bravo Brothers. Details are on the Bulletin Board.

I received a note from Patsy Daniels, wife of Curtis Daniels, and thought I would share it with you. "I know it's been a long time but I want to thank you for the letters of condolence sent when Curtis passed away. His Army buddies meant a lot to him. Sincerely."

Thank you all who contributed to this issue of our newsletter. Your support of our organization is appreciated. Our next issue will be out in September and we will be accepting input through the end of August. Until then, may peace be with you.

Dave out

Submissions may appear disjointed at times but are often edited for space, content and/or excerpted from larger personal communications between members. Submissions can be sent to either my email or home address (880 N. Solar Drive, Vail, AZ 85641) or to any Officer. Any photos submitted by mail will be scanned and returned.

BULLETIN BOARD

Submitted by Walt Shugart—C.O. 1/67-4/67—Re: Suoi Tre 48th Commemoration

Troops of the 2/12 Infantry and 2/77th Artillery stationed at Ft. Carson, Colorado as part of the 4th Infantry Division, celebrated as part of their heritage week, the 48th Anniversary of the Battle of Suoi Tre. Of the fifty-four veterans of the battle who attended the commemoration, B Company was well represented by Dennis Amily, Mike Detmer, Paul Heimann, Don Schulte, Slim Trame, and I. Each friendly element in the battle, including the US Air Force, was also present. When Shirley and I arrived at the hotel where the commemoration functions were held, I was greeted by a 2/12th veteran, Bill Comeau, who had assembled a video recounting the battle in great detail which he showed later that evening. When I introduced myself, he responded, "I thought you were dead!" Later that evening we assembled in the banquet hall where each element discussed its role in the battle. Bill Comeau's video initiated the presentation followed by a spokesman for each unit. The presentation concluded some three hours later with General Vessey, who as a Lieutenant Colonel, was the commander of Fire Base Gold, making final remarks. The following morning, March 21, we traveled to Ft. Carson for the memorial ceremony conducted by the active units. The names of those who were killed in action were recited with solemnity much the way we handle it at our reunions. As the names and their associated units were called, it occurred to me that many of those from HHC 3/22 were part of the scout platoon attached to B Company who had reconstituted 2d Platoon following its losses during the combat assault on March 19. That evening a social and banquet were held at the hotel. Many participants made remarks. The 2/12th representative presented B Company a certificate of appreciation for its valor which I accepted and passed on the Dennis to become part of the display in his 'War Wagon'. Once again, General Vessey concluded the evening with remarks addressing the positive effects of the Vietnam war on the southeast Asian region as a whole. General Vessey's son and daughter-in-law produced a documentary of the entire commemoration. It's a bit long, but General Vessey's speeches at the beginning and end make watching it worthwhile. It can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L3UYucwCxxl>.

On Sunday, the 2/12th hosted a tour of its battalion area, lunch in the dining facility, and opportunities to interact with its soldiers and officers. I've always felt that the B Company soldiers I served with were fully professional; however, you can be proud that those who serve in our army today have raised professionalism to a post graduate level. All the arrangements for the commemoration were coordinated by Joe Engles, a veteran cannoneer of the 2/77th Arty whom we were defending at Suoi Tre. Further, if anyone would like a copy of Bill Comeau's video, just let me know and I'll send you a copy.



The Bravo Regulars from left front to rear Dennis, Slim, Don, Paul, Walt and Mike.

Submitted by Roger (Scott) Burns—1st. Platoon 8-69/70

I served as Platoon Sgt, 1st. Platoon, Bravo Company 3/22. I arrived at Tay Ninh on 8/19/69 and left on 8/20/70. I noticed that Roger Clements had passed. I loved Roger. He was a great soldier and a better person. I also saw the letter Gary Reeves wrote about Roger. His family members should be proud of his service, as he was a damn good soldier and M-60 gunner. I would like to attend a reunion, but I had a stroke 13 years ago. It didn't take my heart or happiness. After reading Roger's obituary, I was ashamed of myself for not sending dues for all you guys do, John Otte, etc.. I love you guys. Thanks.

BULLETIN BOARD

Submitted by Dr. John Thiel

Hello, I work with the US Army Chemical Corps Museum doing research into chemical activities in Vietnam. One facet of that is looking into the deaths of Chemical Soldiers in Vietnam so that they may be properly honored and remembered and to provide closure to their families. I'm having a particularly difficult time uncovering information concerning an incident that occurred on 31 January 1970 that involved Company B of the 3/22d on the ground. A helicopter flying in support of the action crashed killing all seven men aboard including three Chemical Corps officers. I've attached a brief article describing the incident, and I would like you to publish it in your newsletter, on your website, and/or just share it at your reunion in the hope that some of your members might be able to provide an insight into what happened.

On 31 January 1970, the 25th Infantry Division lost seven men when a single helicopter was shot down in an action north of Tay Ninh. The day before, a light observation helicopter (LOH) received ground fire from the region of the saddle due north of Tay Ninh. An NVA unit, variably estimated as the size of a battalion or a regiment, had been spotted in the open. Company B of the Regulars (3/22d Infantry) reacted quickly via heliborne assault. The men were on the ground for only a short time when they began to take fire from a nearby wood line. Under the cover of automatic weapons, they pulled back and let the artillery and air strikes pound the area thoroughly. Company C and tanks from the 2/34th Armor soon joined Company B. The enemy retreated into a finger of woods, and Company A was inserted on the other side to operate as a mobile blocking force. As B and C Companies moved into the woods, they continued to receive sporadic sniper fire, but soon found themselves in the midst of an enemy regiment headquarters and staging complex. The main enemy force had withdrawn to the north, deeper into the jungle. The engagement continued into the next day, 31 January, when, at approximately 1000 hours, a UH-1H helicopter came into the area at treetop level. The men in the cargo area were dropping CS gas to the ground. Despite the covering fire of the door gunners' machine guns, the aircraft was brought down by the enemy. It exploded on impact and burned. All aboard died. The site was secured by troops from either A or B Company, according to a member of C Company who was there. There are many unanswered questions about this action. They range from the simple like the direction in which the aircraft was flying, to the complex like why three Chemical Corps officers were aboard the same aircraft. In between, are questions like was A Company inserted on the east or west side of the finger of jungle, what was the situation on the ground that required a CS drop, what was the nature of the CS munition used, what were the results/benefits of the CS drop, did the aircraft crash in jungle or open terrain, did the aircraft drop to the ground or "auger in", what was the aircraft's mission prior to this last action. Based on my experience and knowledge of Chemical Corps activities in Vietnam, I can develop a good story that explains everything, but it would be only speculation without eyewitness testimony or operation journals that describe what actually happened. So, whether you were directly involved in the action that day or not, on the ground or in the air, in a TOC at battalion, brigade, or division level, or with the 9th Chemical Detachment or Division Chemical, any information whatsoever about this incident would be greatly appreciated. This is an important event for the Chemical Corps, and that's what got me interested in it. I have since learned that none of the flight crew was decorated for their actions that day on what was obviously a very dangerous mission. I would like to correct that, if possible. Finally, but most importantly, family members find great comfort in learning how their loved ones died, and we can make that happen. The helicopter, tail number 68-15462, was from B Company, 25th Aviation Battalion. The aircraft crew members were: CW2 Fulton, Ronald Joe, Aircraft Commander; 2LT Arrants, Michael Lorrel, Pilot; CPL West, Jerald Dale, Crew Chief (posthumously promoted to SGT); and SP5 Rodgers, John Thomas, Gunner (posthumously promoted to SGT).

About the author: Dr. John Thiel was a Chemical Staff Specialist with the 1st. Cavalry Division in 1968 and 1969. His primary mission was clearing tunnels and bunkers and contaminating them with persistent CS. He was severely wounded by mortar fire on two occasions and medically retired from service as a result. He then earned a doctorate in business administration from Indiana University. Dr. Thiel's Chemical Corps historical research earned him election to the Chemical Corps Hall of Fame in 2013. He can be contacted at drjthiel@gmail.com.

BULLETIN BOARD

Submitted by Editor

While working on our Memorial Page, I noted that Frank Blue was not listed. I have added his name to the group who passed prior to 2003. If anyone has a later date of passing, please let me know.

Submitted by Editor—Upcoming Events

All Wars Monument Dedication at the National Infantry Museum is set for 1100 hours 23 June 2015.

22nd Infantry Regiment Society reunion will be held in Syracuse, NY from September 10-13, 2015. A day trip is also being planned to visit the 2/22nd Infantry, 10th Mountain Division.

Historic Joint Reunion of the 4th Infantry Division Assn. and the 25th Infantry Division Assn. is planned for September 26 to October 4, 2015 in Springfield, Illinois. As you know, many of you/us served with both Divisions in Vietnam.

Information on all can be found at the 22nd Infantry Regiment Society website: www.22ndinfantry.org.

Submitted by Bob Garland—3rd Platoon 3-67/68—Published in Rochelle News-Leader

Thanks to two Creston men, there is now a place for area residents to bring their worn flags to be properly destroyed. Vietnam veteran Bob Garland and Charles Vardman, father of a decorated Army Ranger, have installed a drop box for retired U.S. flags. The drop box is located on Main Street in downtown Creston and is available for anyone to deposit a flag needing to be retired. The flags will be collected at a later time. After acquiring a mailbox formerly used by the United States Post Office, Garland and Vardman painted the box white and applied insignias from the military branches. To avoid being mistaken for a mail collection box, both men consulted with the USPS for proper compliance when they repainted the drop box.

Submitted by Editor—Obituaries

Frederick Joseph (Joe) Barlow, Jr.—Served with Bravo Company from June 1968 to June 1969. Joe, a resident of Kingwood, West Virginia, passed away February 21, 2015 with family by his side. He was born September 3, 1946, in Howesville. Joe was a loving husband, father, grandfather, brother and was a retired US Army veteran serving in both Vietnam and Desert Storm. He worked for Chem Metals and Calvert Excavating, was a mechanic for Fraley Motor Company, was the water plant operator for the Town of Albright, a truck driver for Medical Tech and Insight and had recently worked for Mountain State Trailer Sales. He had served as a member of the Albright and Kingwood Volunteer Fire Departments for the past 40 years. Joe is survived by his wife of 46 years, Cynthia Emery Barlow, and an extensive family.

Ernest Williams—served with Bravo Company as 1st Sergeant from 1966 to 1967. Ernest passed away March 16, 2015, in Columbus, Georgia at the age of 88. A native of Nashville, Georgia, Ernest retired from the U.S. Army after over 30 years of service during World War II, the Korean Conflict and serving two tours of duty during the Vietnam Conflict. A devout member and Usher at First African Baptist Church, Ernest served as a Poll Worker Captain during elections and was a great cook. He was preceded in death by his beloved wife of 41 years, Freddie Henderson Williams.

Charles Dennis (Denny) Ellis—served with Bravo Company as 2nd Platoon Medic from April 1967 to April 1968. Denny passed away March 29, 2015 in Tarboro, North Carolina at 68 years of age. He was a proud veteran having served in the U.S. Army as a medic during the Vietnam Conflict. He later retired from the North Carolina Department of Transportation in 2000 after 33 years of service. He leaves his devoted wife of 40 years, Daphne Savage Ellis.

Frederick Thomas (Buster) Gray—served with Bravo Company as an Original with the 1st Platoon. Buster passed away at age 68 after a courageous battle with cancer in Monroe, Wisconsin on April 11, 2015. He was born on August 31, 1946 in Tacoma, Washington. We were notified of his passing by his daughter, Shanon Gransee. No further information is available.



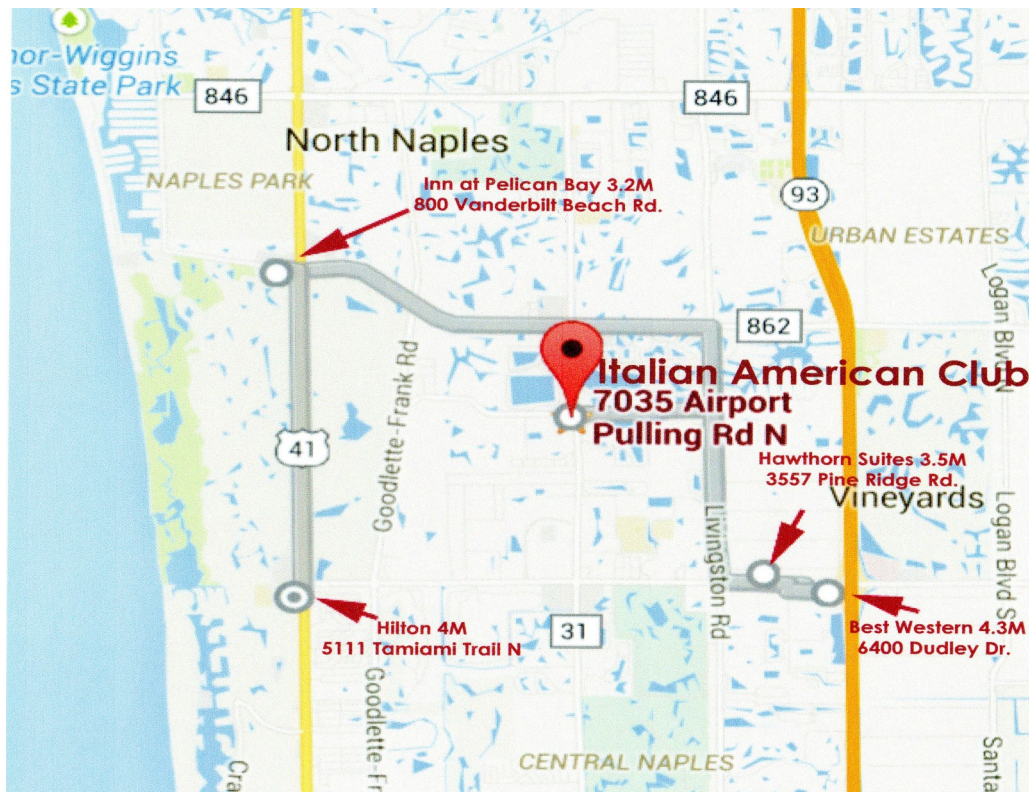
John Otte
Treasurer/Locator
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Association Business

Financial Report Income and Expense

Mar. 1, 2015 Balance		\$9,707.03
<u>Income</u>		
Dues	\$664.00	
Dividend		
Total Income	\$664.00	
<u>Expenses</u>		
Newsletter	\$779.80	
Webpage		
Bank Fees	\$ 10.00	
Total Expenses	\$789.80	
May , 31, 2015 Balance		\$9,581.23

REUNION SITE MAP



BRAVO REUNION 2016

Naples, Florida Welcomes Bravo Company



Presented by Co-Hosts Richard Ward & Dorene Clark

The event will be held at [Naples Italian American Club](#), located at 7035 Airport Pulling Road in Naples, Florida. There is a map included in newsletter with the location of the venue and all of the lodging options and instructions for reservations on the reservation form.

You can choose from two featured excursions:

- Cruise aboard a Luxury Yacht for a narrated tour and a buffet lunch on the Naples Princess where you may catch a spool of dolphin's playing in the Gulf of Mexico.
- Florida Everglades Airboat Tours by Captain Mitch, the oldest family in the airboat rides industry of south Florida.

You can sign up for these and other discounted events on the Registration Form.

We are proud to offer this 2016 Bravo Reunion at the same price as previous years. Your early registration will help us make this a memorable event.

Shirts for the men and ladies and hats can be pre-ordered and paid for at time of registration. Prices are on the registration form. If you prefer to pay with a credit card, send an email request for a PayPal Invoice to bravoreunion2016@gmail.com.

BRAVO REGULARS 2016 REUNION REGISTRATION FORM

April 6, 2016 thru April 10, 2016

REGISTRATION FEE: \$75 Per Person \$140 Per Couple		
CONTACT INFORMATION		
Full Name:		Number of Guests:
Street address:	Spouse Name:	Phone no.: ()
City:	State:	ZIP Code:
Vietnam Unit:	Date of Service:	
Arrival Date:	Departure Date:	
Email Address:		

LODGING OPTIONS		
(Please Contact Hotel Direct Using <i>Group ID</i>)		
Inn at Pelican Bay: <u>Bravo Reunion 2016 Rate:</u> \$129 City View / \$149 Garden View Reservation Deadline 3/1/2016		Address: 800 Vanderbilt Beach Rd., Naples, FL 34108 (239) 597-8777
Hilton: <u>Bravo Regulars Reunion 2016 Rate:</u> \$203 (20 rooms available) Reservation Deadline 3/7/2016		Address: 5111 Tamiami Trail N., Naples, FL 34103 (239) 430-4900
Hawthorne Suites: <u>Bravo Company Rate:</u> Studio \$124 / 1-Bedroom \$134 Reservation Deadline 2/27/2016		Address: 3557 Pine Ridge Rd., Naples, FL 34109 (239) 593-1300
Best Western: <u>Bravo Reunion 2016 Rate:</u> Negotiations In Progress		Address: Christian Hernandez 6400 Dudley Dr. Naples, FL 34105 (239) 643-6655
Reunion Shirts:	S M L XL XXL	Reunion Shirts: () () Reunion Hats: () \$23 each \$13 each
Number Ordered:	Circle	Total \$ Total: \$
<u>Naples Princess Luxury Yacht Tour</u>		<u>Captain Mitch's Everglades Air Boat Rides</u>
Insert Names to Register		Insert Names to Register
<u>Naples Trolley Tours</u> • <u>Naples Caribbean Gardens & Zoo</u> • <u>Naples Botanical Gardens</u>		
Discounted Rates Available		

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN BY ONE OF THE FOLLOWING METHODS:		
Bravo Regulars Association 6017 Pine Ridge Rd., #273, Naples, FL 34119	EMAIL: BravoReunion2016@gmail.com	FAX: (239) 491-7001
<p>Please include check with reservation or send email to bravoreunion2016@gmail.com & Request a PayPal invoice to pay with credit card Shirts & Hats are pre-ordered and require advance payment</p>		