

# Bravo Regulars



B Company 3/22



Vietnam Service

www.bravoregulars.com

June 2018



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



**Memorial Day**  
**Don't forget  
to remember**  
*Some Gone, None Forgotten*



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## *In Memory*

### **Bravo Company 3rd Battalion 22nd Infantry**

#### **COMBAT CASUALTIES**



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

#### **POST-COMBAT PASSINGS**

1970	Joe Rennison		Larry Jenkins	2005	William Samson	2013	Joseph Mafort
	Charles W. Long		Leroy Gregerson	2006	Jack Gainey		Nolan Price
	David Reyes		Ernest Menchaca		Gary P. Brown	2014	Allen Peteet
	David R. Stalker		James R. Rhone		Michael Nordstrom		Peter Trapino
2003	Tex Richards		Charles Dearden	2007	Alfred Warnsley		Norm Bergsma
	Roscoe Greene Jr.		Franklin Benhart		George Hicks		Peter Heald
	James Clark		John Medicinotop		Roger Beegle	2014	Roger Clements
	Tom Vargo		Roy Davidson		Ted Davis	2015	Traczyk Williams
	William Mosley		Robert Gregory	2008	Charles Rock		Frederick Barlow
	Gary Patton		Nolan Adams	2009	Larry Thomas		Frederick Gray
	Anthony Giavonni		James Genoff		Gary Tetting		Ernest Williams
	Hector Rosado		Cornell Brown		Robert Duncan		Charles Ellis
	John Ellison		John J. Roche	2010	Steve March		Gerald DePhilip
	Lawrence Baughman		Gerald Lyda		Charles Putman		Donny Tew
	Charles Sheldon		Warner Surphin		Richard Wood		Richard Wiltshire
	Robert S. Schlegel		Larry Eason		Ernie Rice		Kurley Dorthard
	Larry Augsburg		Allen Lavigan		Allen Bateman	2016	Allen Haskin
	David Blanton		Frank Roberts		Alvin Bess		Lester Lemon
	Wade McGowan		James L. Roedel		Marion Hiers		Richard Geib
	Mark Rowan		Michael Nordstrom		Tommy McKamey		Richard Ward
	Douglas Wartella		John A. Bender		John Brockman		Perry Sheridan
	Dwight Jessup		Edward Nidy		Richard Prairie		Patrick Hoffman
	Herbert Pruitt		Frank Blue	2012	Robert Hemphill		Dennis Earwood
	Joe Lappie		William Madsen		Terry Shipley	2017	Mark DeLong
	Jim Bakke	2004	James Jones		Jose Cosme-Rivera		Lane Sterling
	Charles Burns		Louis Phillips		Robert Ryan		Mario Reyes
	Tommy Harris		Randy Schick		Darryle Funk		Walt Shugart
	Peter McKenney	2005	Gary Reynolds	2013	Curtis Daniels, Jr.		James Murphy
	John Glass		John Howe		Albert Comeaux		





## President's Message

John GORITY  
President  
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jfgority@aol.com

Greetings Bravo Brothers,

I hope you all had as nice a Memorial Day in your community, as we did here. There are several small communities in our county that hold parades and remembrance events. We participate in the one in Altoona, our largest community. I participate with our VFW Post 3 unit in the parade. This year the weather was nice and the turnout was very good. After the parade, there is always a ceremony with a speaker at the Veterans Memorial Park in downtown Altoona. This year the speaker was Sigrid Andrews, the new Director of the Veterans Administration Medical Center, and the first woman to hold that position here. After the ceremony, several of us from the VFW made the rounds to a few monuments and grave sites to provide honors' ceremonies. When we were done, some of us went to Catholic War Vets to enjoy the hot dogs and wings that they had available to honor those who had served.

As my term as President of Bravo Company is coming to an end, I would like to thank everyone who has served with me for their work on behalf of our organization. Thanks to Charlie Weems, Vice President; John Otte, Treasurer/Locator; and especially David Lowell, Secretary, who does such a wonderful job as Editor and Publisher of this newsletter. It takes a lot of work and dedication and I am very pleased that David has continued to provide this service for us. I would also like to thank Ted Silberies, immediate Past President, for his support.

Of course, I want to give a huge Thank You to Jim and Pam Adams who have done a LOT of work to put together what I believe will be a wonderful reunion. Donna and I are looking forward to our first visit to Branson. Everyone we know who has been there assures us that we will have a great time. We are looking forward to seeing you all there, to enjoy our time sharing memories and going to see some of the local sites together.

See you in Branson,

*John*



## Vice President's Column

Charles Weems  
Vice President  
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charlesweems@icloud.com

Greetings Bravo Brothers! Hope everyone had a safe and wonderful Memorial Day. I am encouraging all who are physically and financially able to attend the Branson reunion to make plans to be there. Jim and Pam have worked hard to make this a success. I salute you both! My situation is not good right now due to prostate problems, family sickness and PTSD. With so much going on, Dorothy and I will not be attending this years' reunion. We really wanted so much to be there. God puts things in our lives and only He knows why. We are hoping all who do attend have a great time.

My thoughts and prayers go out to the kids and teacher who were killed in the school shooting in Texas. It's a terrible thing when our schools have become battlegrounds. Something must be done! Things like this really bother me. Very sad! This is not the country we went to war for anymore. Just too much hatred everywhere. We can only pray to God that things will get better. Although I won't be at the reunion in person, I'll be there in spirit and thoughts. Have a marvelous summer and may God bless you all.

*Charlie*



John Otte  
Treasurer/Locator  
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*John*

## Association Business

### Financial Report Income and Expense

March 1, 2018 Balance	\$18,063.27
<u>Income</u>	
Total Income	\$ 0
<u>Expenses</u>	
Newsletter	\$ 568.39
Hosting Service	59.85
Website Update	35.00
Website Renewal	11.16
Reunion Committee	3500.00
Total Expenses	\$4174.40
May 31, 2018 Balance	\$13,888.87



## Reunion Update

Jim Adams  
Reunion Host  
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jamesk923@msn.com

I realized the other day that the reunion is just around the corner. Please remember to bring your basket from your state or other items that represent your state for the raffle. Lisa Young has the quilt ready. The raffles and 50/50 monies help pay for this reunion and the next one in 2020.

On a note of special interest, the Manager of the Vietnam Museum wants any one who failed to sign up for the tour or decides to go after coming to Branson, to still be able to attend. On Wednesday, they are open from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Attendees can go between those hours and will need to wear their lanyard with their name badge to count for the group rate of the Bravo Regulars. This makes it easy for attendees to do both activities on Wednesday.

### Schedule of Events

#### Tuesday, June 19

All day check-in with Welcome Reception at 6:00 p.m.

#### Wednesday, June 20

8:00 a.m.—Reunion Room opens  
9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.—Vietnam Museum open  
12:00 p.m.—Lunch  
2:00 p.m.—Music Show  
6:00 p.m.—Dinner and Fellowship

#### Thursday, June 21

8:00 a.m.—Reunion Room opens  
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.—Veteran representatives to speak on services/benefits  
12:00 p.m.—Lunch  
3:00 p.m.—Board buses for dinner cruise with return to hotel for Fellowship

#### Friday, June 22

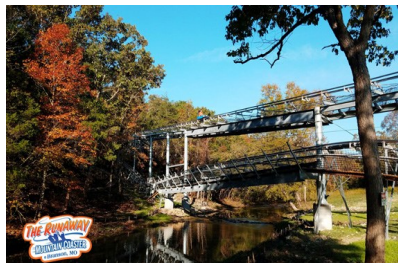
8:00 a.m.—Reunion Room opens  
10:00 a.m.—Bravo Board Meeting and General Meeting, followed by group photo session  
12:00 p.m.—Lunch  
2:00 p.m.—Memorial Service followed by raffle drawing and Fellowship  
6:00 p.m.—Dinner with band and dancing to follow

If there is anything that anyone needs, please feel free to let us know.

*Jim and Pam*



**FUN THINGS TO DO IN BRANSON**  
**branson.com for more information**



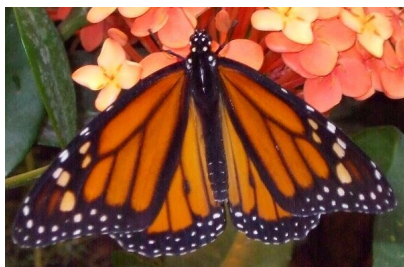
Runaway Mtn. Coaster  
\$16.13



History of Fishing Museum  
\$16.08



Fun Spot Farm Mini-Golf  
\$8.95



Butterfly Palace & Rainforest  
\$20.04



Ducks  
\$26.85



Ferris Wheel  
\$10.75



Shepherd Inspiration Tower  
\$8.25



Branson Zip Line  
Wolfe Mountain—\$99.99  
Zip line USA—\$89.00



Branson Scenic Railroad  
\$28.25



National Tiger Sanctuary  
\$25.00



Branson Segway  
\$18.91



Track Family Fun Parks  
\$43.01 (4 rides)



## **Editor's Notes**

David W. Lowell  
Editor  
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Welcome back Bravo Brothers! Branson reunion host Jim Adams has provided us with a list of registered attendees as of the end of May. It can be found on our Bulletin Board.

The memorial event dedicating a baseball field to Donny Tidwell (KIA April 12, 1968 at the Battle of Good Friday) has passed. Information about the event is on our Bulletin Board. Also, Phyllis Vickery (Tidwell) has changed her plans to attend the Branson reunion. Her e-mail is also on the Bulletin Board.

At our last reunion (that I regrettably missed), we had several good offers to host the 2018 reunion. Hopefully, those who weren't selected are still interested in hosting and we will welcome any new volunteers as well. To make the selection process easier, we ask that all proposals for our 2020 reunion be submitted in writing to any Board member prior to the Board meeting at the Branson reunion. Thank you in advance for your participation.

We received word from Ted Rowley (2nd Platoon—9-66/67 Original) that his wife, Barb, had suffered a heart attack in March and is now in rehab. Attendance at our upcoming reunion is questionable and depends on Barb's progress. Please join me in wishing them well.

Shirley Shugart has accepted our offer of an honorary membership and will continue to receive our newsletter. All honorary members are invited to join us in Branson.

Thank you, John Kapor (3rd Platoon—Basic Only) for submitting two articles from the organization MOPH (Military Order of the Purple Heart) observing Vietnam Veterans Day on March 29, 2018, and establishing a Virtual Memorial Wall on the internet. Details are on the Bulletin Board.

Thank you, George Trujillo (2nd Platoon—7-67/68) for sharing his photos from 'in country' with us. They may be found on our web site on the photo page.

Thank you, John Kapor (3rd Platoon—Basic Only) for submitting the poem "The Veteran" which can be found on our Bulletin Board.

Sadly I must inform you that we received word from a family member that James Murphy (Art. FO—1967) passed away May, 2017. No additional information was found.

Thanks to all who contributed to this issue of our newsletter. 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. Hope to see all of you in Branson.

*Dave out*

## **BULLETIN BOARD**

### **Submitted by Jim Adams—Reunion Host**

Here is a list of those members who plan to attend this years' reunion: Jim and Pam Adams with guest Mark Twillmann; Dennis and Dorothy Amily; Dee and Cheryl Anderson; Paul and Linda Angers; Robert Best; Jim and Gail Broussard; Paul Dell, Jr.; Mike and Marge Detmer; John and Lynn Dingle; Matt and Carol Flikkema; Paul and Marilyn Fritz; Bob Garland; John and Donna Gority; Art and Denise Gormley; Shorty and Hope Gutierrez; Dennis and Brenda Hawkins; James and Thelma Howton; Jerry Kanoza and Sherry York; Ron and Jean King with guest Marc Buatte; Carl and Helen Lammers; Dave and Dee Lowell; Curtis and Wanda McFarland; Jerome and Ann Mondt; Nuane Neely; Kenneth and Sue Neveaux; John and Bennie Otte; Glenn and Sandra Perkins; Sonny and Joanne Rasmussen; Michael and Charlsie Restelle; Jim and Mary Jane Richter; Larry and Connie Robinson with guest Lou Dalton; Don and Mary Schulte; Joy Shipley; Ted and Judi Silberies; Joe and Judy Stein; Richard, Mardell and Aundra Thompson; Max Torres; Patrick, Michael and Kari Toyama with guest David Gasca; Michael and Linda Toyer; Slim and Tess Trame; Bill and Laura Turnpaugh; Tommy and Bonnie Kae Vokes; Ron and Sue Wallace; Cliff and Bette Weese; Tom Welter; Melvin and Connie Yardley; Larry and Lisa Young.

### **Submitted by William Williams, Associate Research Engineer, Texas A&M Transportation Institute**

Dave, the memorial event went very well! We had several hundred in attendance from my home town as we dedicated our baseball field in honor of Donny Tidwell with a new flagpole and a monument. This field/facility is now known as Donny G. Tidwell Memorial Field. I believe this event was a positive experience for my community. We were able to remember Donny's life as it related to the events of this time period in the '60's. I know we are all proud of Donny's accomplishments as a son from our community, professional baseball player, and patriot in the service of our country. I am thankful for all the correspondence we had together this past year! There were about 50 members of Donny's family and extended family in attendance. Our community is proud of him and his service. I am proud not only for his personal accomplishments and service, but also his involvement with Bravo Company and the famous 25th Infantry Division. Thanks again for all your valuable information and assistance. Thanks again for proofreading my text for the monument! I must say ... this project has led me to look further into the heroic actions of the 25th infantry in this part of South Vietnam in the time period of 1967 to mid-1968. I look forward to learning more about the unit ... especially the actions around President Lyndon B. Johnson issuing the unit a Presidential Unit Citation for actions in 1967. Also, I understand a young colonel at the time, John William Vessey, would emerge from this unit to become Ronald Regan's Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Colonel Vessey commanded all the artillery for the unit at the battle of Soui Tre. I hope to talk to you very soon!

### **Submitted by Phyllis Vickery—Sister of Donny Tidwell**

Dave, I wanted to thank you for welcoming me to your reunion. But, after the expense of the dedication and the emotions I have experienced the last few months getting ready for the dedication, I must decline this year. Thank you so much. Everything went great for the dedication.



## **BULLETIN BOARD**

### **Submitted by John Kapor (3rd Platoon, Basic Only)**

On March 29, 2018, the Military Order of the Purple Heart observed Vietnam Veterans Day. The following article was sent to me by Neil Van Ess, National Commander. To contact the Military Order of the Purple Heart, e-mail them at [communications@purple-heart.org](mailto:communications@purple-heart.org).

To All My Fellow Brothers and Sisters in Purple Who are Vietnam Veterans, Let Me Say: Welcome Home! Today is Vietnam Veterans Day 2018. Fifty years ago today, I myself was in Vietnam, yet sometimes it seems like yesterday. Those of us who made it home are the lucky ones, despite all that we have gone through, like the wounds each of us suffered, exposure to Agent Orange, and Post Traumatic Stress. But the often unseen and disabling wounds of many can never compare to the pain we feel for our fellow soldiers who never came home. For me, the best therapy has been my involvement in the Military Order of the Purple Heart and my interaction with YOU, my brothers and sisters in Purple. Most Americans are familiar with Veterans Day and Memorial Day. Every November, the Nation shows its appreciation to all those who made the supreme sacrifice in defense of our Nation. Throughout the year, however, we also set aside certain days to honor those veterans who served our nation during particular conflicts. For example, we celebrate V-E Day and V-J Day on the anniversaries of the end of World War II in Europe and Japan. Veterans Day itself was originally known as Armistice Day, marking the anniversary of the end of World War I. Each year, we observe March 29th as the day in 1973 when the last U.S. combat troops departed Vietnam and, therefore, consider that date as the official end of the Vietnam War, even though it was not until May of 1975 that the U.S. Military presence completely ended. Likewise, although the war is generally considered to have “begun” with the deployment of full combat units in 1965, U.S. troops were in country, in harm’s way, as early as 1955. Thus, the U.S. Department of Defense recognizes the period from November 1, 1955, through May 15, 1975 as the official dates in its commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War. Within the Military Order of the Purple Heart, we celebrate not only those who were wounded or killed in action, but the honorable service of every veteran from the Vietnam era—both those with boots on the ground, as well as those who supported them in other ways on land, in the air, and at sea. Our Nation learned a lesson from the ill treatment of returning Vietnam veterans, so we must, now and forever, honor the ongoing service and sacrifices of our troops today, whether or not we have officially designated an “end” to combat operations in any particular part of the world. I ask you to join me today in remembering our Vietnam Veterans, but let us also remember all of our veterans, each and every day, including March 29th.

### **Submitted by John Kapor (3rd Platoon, Basic Only)—Military Order of the Purple Heart—Virtual Memorial Wall**

As Memorial Day approaches, please help us honor the service and sacrifices of America’s Servicemen and Women. We are pleased to announce the MOPH Virtual Memorial Wall. This is not part of a monument, instead it is a living memorial that can constantly be updated. This will be a permanent part of the website and allows every member to honor a veteran who has paid the ultimate price for our freedom, along with all those who have passed on. You will be able to search by war and first letter of the Last Name. You can add as many names as you like to the page. Please click on the attached link to go to the page and help us honor them all. — MOPH Virtual Memorial Wall.

## BULLETIN BOARD

Submitted by John Kapor (3rd Platoon—Basic Only)

### The Veteran—by Yusra Abdelrahman

Through all the wars, battles, and fights,  
Veterans have served to protect people's rights.  
Men and women willing to pay the ultimate price,  
to guard our country from the world's vice.  
A country built on patriotic sacrifice.

Some have lived, while others died.  
Those we didn't know,  
whom others mourned and cried.  
With integrity and loyalty,  
they fought for our nation.  
They made sacrifices and displayed bravery,  
that is beyond our imagination.

Some were drafted,  
while others volunteered.  
Some it was just yesterday,  
for others it has been many years.  
Through many obstacles and often tears,  
Veterans have had to persevere.

Undeterred by adversity and pain,  
you knowingly fought without getting gain.  
Risking your life to let freedom reign,  
liberty and justice is what you sustain.  
And when our country was in need,  
you didn't refrain.  
And for that we are grateful,  
Thank You, we exclaim.

The legacy of democracy that you continue to save.  
The road to freedom that you helped to pave.  
To help our flag continue to wave.  
A shrine of honor you take with you to your grave.  
Years of your life that you selflessly gave.  
Will forever in our country's history be engraved.  
In the Land of the Free.  
And Home of the Brave.

