

Lowell Walburn

Dear John,

I received my 11th ACR magazine today and saw your request for information on the anonymous battle. I don't remember all that happened that day but will try to help.

My name is Lowell F. Walburn and I was on track A_39 our name for our track was Aretha because my tank commander Jim Crew liked Aretha Franklin.

I can't remember my first commander's name but do remember you but am not sure how long you were my Captain either. I was in Viet Nam from Aug. 69 thru Aug of 70.

We were there the night the motor track blew up to. I'll never forget that night and the smell of our comrades burning up. It's amazing that over 20 years later my son came home from Iraq saying that the smell of burning flesh will stay with him forever.

On the day that S.F.C. Foreman was killed we were two tracks away to the left of his track. I can remember plan as day our T.C. Jim yelling down to us inside the track that Sgt. Foreman had just been killed and most of his crew was wounded if I remember right the one that I hung around with was a red haired kid from Florida he had massive head wounds I'm not sure if he lived or not.

I remember seeing muzzle flashes coming from a bunker in front of us. We lowered the main gun and put a heat round into the bunker. I was the gunner that day and it felt good to see that bunker disintegrate but right away someone came over the radio and told us not to use heat rounds any more as we were to close together.

I remember that we pulled back off the line for some reason and I helped the medics get the wounded out of the immediate area. I don't remember our medics last name but am sure his first name was Jim and I believe he was from Colorado.

I remember you being wounded and coming back to the field with a cast on.

I often felt that my T.C. should have received an award for his bravery that day at one time we were way ahead of everyone else after Sgt. Foreman was killed as Jim was so pissed that a good man was gone. We all liked and admired Sgt. Foreman. I remember someone on the radio ordering us to pull back and Jim was mad, he wanted to get even.

I don't know if I have helped you any but I hope I have, maybe you remember me by the monkey that I had. We gave him a flat-top haircut and called him lifer.

I remember you as a good man who cared for his troops.

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