



# Thunder Run

Vol. 37- NO. 2

"Together Then - Together Again"

2nd Quarter, 2022

## The 11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia

As remembered by Bill Lewellen

### 'K' Troop's first loss in Vietnam

M-113, ACAV  
(Armored Cavalry  
Assault Vehicle)



October 14, 1966, started out like most other days in Vietnam, it was already hot as I took my turn on watch early in the morning. I probably checked the batteries and started the engine to recharge the batteries of the ACAV, before getting into the cupola to do my watch. We were working with the 52nd ARVN Ranger battalion pulling security for the 86th engineers with Rome

plows clearing brush away along the side of route 20.

Later in the morning after the Track Commander's daily morning meeting I learned I would be going on a dismounted patrol leaving about noon. Seventeen men from 3rd platoon of "K" Troop left the company area on foot about noon. We walked west through some coconut trees

Please turn to **K-TROOP** on page 6

### Memorial Day Wreath at the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial

All Blackhorse Troopers, family, and friends are invited to participate in the Annual Memorial Day wreath laying at the Wall

**When:** 10:00 AM, Monday, May 30, 2022. Please be there by 9:45 AM.

**Where:** Near the Three Soldiers Statue at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Washington D.C.

**Who:** All Blackhorse Troopers from all eras, family, and friends.

**What:** We will initially gather by 10:00 AM near the statue of the Three Soldiers, make introduc-



tions, say a few words, and then informally carry the wreath to the apex of The Wall. Look for the Blackhorse Patch wreath that will be there by 09:30.

Please pass this information to anyone who might be interested in participating.

### 2nd Quarter 2022

### State of the Reunion

Only 6 months from this writing and the 37th Annual Reunion will kick off. I have a few updates for you. First being the group code for hotel registrations. Due to the formatting I used in the 1st quarter report, the code printed was VE, it should be VET. There have been many requests to have Veggie added to the banquet menu. That has been approved by the Hotel. Please contact Bob Moreno if you have already registered and want to change your meal choice. I also have new info on Barbers Motorcycle Museum admission fee, scooter rentals and the Barons Baseball team games. Please read on for the bold updates.

**The 37th 11th ACCVC Annual Reunion  
September 5th-11th, 2022  
Birmingham Sheraton  
2101 Richard Arrington Jr. Blvd North  
Birmingham, Alabama 35203**

**Reservations by phone-205-324-5000. Be sure to tell the reservations agent that you are with the 11th ACVVC, group code: VET**

**For Reservations online go to:  
<https://book.passkey.com/event/50238985/owner/16607/home>**

**The room rate is \$125 + taxes per night, good for 3 days prior to the 5th and 3 days after the 11th. Parking is \$8 per night. Hotel reservation cut off is Aug 8, 2022. Reunion registration fee is \$100, the cut off is Aug. 8, 2022.**

Reunion registrations cancelled after August 29, 2022, cannot be refunded. This is the date all numbers must be submitted to the hotel and funds are committed. Please abide by these dates, it makes the Officer's and BOD's jobs much easier and saves you money. If you cancel later than Aug. 29 your registration fee must stay in the reunion account. Cancellations prior to that will be

Please turn to **REUNION** on page 3





## 11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia (11ACVVC)

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*Thunder Run* covers present and future interests of the organization that includes membership and reunion information, various fund raising activities, and other items relative to the membership. Submissions are welcome and encouraged. Correspondence and inquiries concerning *Thunder Run* should be made in writing to: Editor, "Thunder Run," Peter L. Walter, 8 Tallowood Dr., Westampton, NJ 08060-3721.

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# President's Message

By Pete Walter

Troopers, families and friends,

I hope this issue of *Thunder Run* finds you all in good health and with restored spirits as we finally seem to be shrugging off the cold clutches of winter. Here in the northeast, we have had heavy rains and the grass is already thick and green. Regardless of any negativity which may creep into our lives and our world, spring always seems - at least to me - to be a harbinger of optimism and revitalization. I hope you feel the same!

My message this quarter will be very short as we have a lot of information for you in this edition. Please read this issue cover-to-cover and pay close attention to all deadlines, prices, addresses, etc. We expect this reunion to be our biggest in

**All the info you need for the 2022 reunion is in this issue and we urge you to register as early as possible.**

three years as it appears the pandemic threat has been significantly reduced. This will be our first visit to Alabama, "The Heart of Dixie".

All the info you need for the 2022 reunion is in this issue and we urge you to register as early as possible. Vice President/Reunion Chairman Frank Church has provided all the information you need, so register now and make your hotel reservations as early as possible. We have had some issues with our members not being able to easily reach the hotel

reservations desk, so don't give up. Call and make your reservations, use the group code "VET" and be sure to get a confirmation number.

Remember, this organization does not exist without you. All the Officers and Chairmen and Chairwomen thank you for your support, input, generous donations and of course for your service to our country and to our Regiment! Serving as your President is my honor. "Allons!"

Respectfully,  
Pete

## REUNION from page 1

refunded or moved to the account of your choice.

Service dogs are welcome but please bring all your valid documentation to avoid any unnecessary questioning. Pets are allowed for \$50 per night, max of 2.

We do get a 20% discount in select hotel outlets. This seems to be overlooked each year so either copy or cut from the *Thunder Run*, the **11th ACVVC Discount Coupon** below

This coupon will also be in your registration pack. Please remember to use it, just your ID tag may not be enough. Do not turn it over to the Server, it is good for as many times as you want to use it during the reunion dates. Please tip as though there is no discount. Servers will not proactively give you the discount if it cuts into their gratuity. Handwritten coupons will not be accepted.

Even though Covid 19 and its variants are still prominent in the news it seems that the worst of the Pandemic is behind us and we are planning to have another great reunion. The turnout last year in Dallas was proof that

you, the members, and families, are still up to getting together and having a great time. We had 600 in attendance, down from past reunions but is probably the approximate number expected for the future. We are getting older and travel is a little harder to deal with and more members are going to Fiddlers Green, so don't put off coming to a reunion until next year.

There are 6 restaurants just outside the entrance to the hotel, all with different menus and prices. Among the many things to see and do in Birmingham is the Barber Vintage Motorcycle Museum, a really cool place and a must see. The Museum has agreed to reduce the price of entry for the 11th ACCVC, just show your reunion ID tag or tell them you are with us. The Barons Double A baseball team will be in town the week of our reunion. Ticket prices as of today range from \$10 to \$20 depending on where you chose to sit, all games are in the evening. Tickets can be purchased on line at [Barons@Barons.com](mailto:Barons@Barons.com) or at the park. There will be a schedule available at the Reunion

Registration with more info. There is the Alabama Veterans Memorial, Vulcan Park and Museum (I recommend seeing this and taking the guided tour), a Baseball Museum, Alabama Sports Hall of Fame, the oldest baseball park in the U.S., several botanical gardens, a Zoo, several Civil Rights historical sites and a museum of flight featuring the Tuskegee Airmen.

*Scooters will again be made available by calling "Elrod Mobility" at 205-424-5858.* They will deliver to the hotel for \$250 per week or \$100 per day. Several members have called me about not being able to make reservations at the phone number provided. This happens every year. Reservations are farmed out and the knowledge of the individual agent is often limited at best. I have made contact with the hotel on this issue and it seems to have gotten better, at least I am not getting as many complaints. So please make your reservation at the hotel and register for the reunion. Stay safe, stay well. See you in Birmingham.

*Frank Church, Reunion Chairman*

### 11th ACVVC Discount Coupon

The holder is entitled to a 20% discount on food purchases at:

**Casey's Sports Bar, Coffee Shop, Atrium Café**

Per contract with the Sheraton Birmingham

# Our Fallen Never Forgotten

*(Editor's note: This story was originally to appear in the 4th qtr 2021 issue of "Thunder Run". Space limitations precluded publication at that time. I regret the delay and inconvenience.)*

**Y**ou may have noticed this photo in the 4th qtr 2021 "Thunder Run". This is the story behind the photo.

Allen Hathaway was contacted by Janice Lindsay, the much younger sister of Troy Battles, (H Company, KIA in January, 1968). She said, "I would like to attend one of your events honoring our Viet Nam soldiers". Allen gave her information about the reunion and about the Ft. Benning memorial and added her to the Thunder Run mailing list. After COVID-19 delaying her plans, Allen recalls Janice being apprehensive and he said that the reunions were laid back. Janice bravely attended the Dallas reunion.

After the banquet Ron's wife Deb Herndon describes "We walked out of the ballroom saying our goodbyes as we were leaving early Sunday morning. I happened to notice a woman walking away who during the banquet, was recognized as a first-time attendee to the reunion. I caught up with her, introduced myself and started visiting about her reunion experience. She shared that she was a Gold Star Family Member of Viet Nam, having lost her brother there. About that time, Ron walked up, and I introduced him to her, that he had been a Combat Medic in Viet Nam, 67-68. Ron extended his condolences about losing her brother and told the story of what happened to him just 2 weeks after his arrival in Viet Nam, a story he had shared for years because of its impact on him and so many others. He responded to a tank that had been hit by enemy fire killing 2 young troopers that he and another member of F Troop, pulled out of the carnage. Ron then made comment he would never forget "Battles and Martin", the names of the 2 men killed in action. Suddenly, the woman in tears told us, Battles was her brother! We all stood there, crying, hugging, totally in awe of the coincidence of us connecting. Amazingly, the other trooper who assisted Ron with the removal of their fallen troopers 54 years ago, was at the reunion too!!



At the Dallas reunion: ( L to R ) Ron Herndon, Janice Lindsay and Tom Stone

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**PFC Troy Cleveland Battles, MOS 11E10 Armor Crewman, was killed in action January 6, 1968. He was 19 years old. He is interred at Springdale Cemetery and Mausoleum in Peoria, Illinois.**

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There were many more tears, hugs and she told us there were 2 things the family always worried about, was their brother alone when he passed and did he suffer. Having met Ron and Tom, Janice said those worries were now gone.

Call it closure, call it karma, a God-sent blessing, all of the above, Troy Cleveland Battles, had Never been forgotten."

Well, the fact that Ron and Tom were there together in Dallas goes back to a prior reunion. As Tom and Donna Stone write "We attended the 11th CAV reunion in San Antonio, Texas in 2016. One afternoon, we were at the bunker. Our group of "F" Troopers and spouses were sitting at the table, looking at pictures and reminiscing about the guys' experiences in Vietnam.

Ron and Deb Herndon walked over to the table and asked if they could sit down and join us. They were first time attendees. We all said sure. The guys began talking and immediately asked Ron, when were you in Vietnam? He explained that

he had just got there in December 1967. It got the attention of all at the table when he said he was a "Medic". He started talking about an incident that occurred on January 6th, 1968. He was attending to a fellow trooper whose tank was hit with an RPG. At that time, Tom told him some of them were there that day and that his track F-14 was sent by Lt. Jones ( F-16 ) to guard the disabled tank to ensure that it did not get hit again. Ron was shocked to hear that some of these guys sitting at the table were with him that day. The conversations continued that day, and everyone was really happy to meet and be with Ron and Deb. We have all kept in touch and are "Brothers Forever".

And that Ron was even there at the Dallas reunion is due to Clay Nealeigh ( F-11 ) strongly encouraging Ron to attend even with Ron's health concerns by saying "...what better place to be than at the reunion with your friends that care about you". Luckily Ron was persuaded.

Janice plans to attend the Birmingham reunion. She may have found closure and a lot more.

# 2022 Elections

By Greg Mason  
Secretary-Pro Tem, 11th ACVVC

Three positions will be up for election this year during the General Membership Meeting to be held Saturday morning, September 10th, during the 2022 Reunion. The three positions are President, Secretary and one Director.

The President and Secretary will serve two-year terms beginning January 1, 2023 and ending December 31, 2024. The Director will serve a three-year term beginning January 1, 2023 and ending December 31, 2025.

A special election will be held to fill the unexpired term of Secretary Jerry Beamon, who resigned earlier this year. An election to fill the office of Secretary on a pro tem basis was held in October 2021 among the incumbent Officers and Directors and Greg Mason was elected until a special election could be held to fill the unexpired term for the period ending

December 31, 2022.

All candidates must be Life Members of the 11th ACVVC. Candidates will have an equal opportunity to state their qualifications at the General Membership Meeting. The elected candidates must be able to attend the annual reunion and two Board Meetings each year of their elected term.

The elected candidates must be able to communicate by e-mail with the other Board members and be able to help the Board make decisions on a variety of organizational matters. Each candidate must be highly organized and be able to commit time and energy to a specific project or committee as directed by the President. Excellent skills in using Microsoft Word and Excel are required in order to prepare reports and other documents required of all positions.

The position of President requires considerable time and superb organizational skills. The President needs to frequently

multi-task in his responsibility to oversee all projects, programs, and activities of the organization.

Candidates for Secretary should be able to intently follow and record organized minutes, summarize reports, actions and decisions from official meetings, and maintain records of the 11th ACVVC and its numerous projects. He should have strong language and writing skills and know basic Robert's Rules of Order. Information management skills on a computer are required.

The Directors are expected to commit themselves to a specific area of interest within the 11th ACVVC or as directed by the President.

Nominations for these positions should be submitted in writing to the Secretary or submitted from the floor at the General Membership meeting. Please consider participating on the Board of Directors serving the 11th ACVVC.

## VSO Information

I have a passionate need to share with the readers of this column. And yes, I know I am revisiting a topic I have written about previously yet stay with me for this. During the past four months, I have assisted spouses of Viet Nam veterans develop claims for survivors benefits for deaths from service-connected disabilities. Two such claims were for medical conditions for which the veteran was receiving VA compensation, so these claims for the survivors were rather easy to develop and submit to the VA. In fact, both widows received DIC (disability indemnity compensation) within a relatively short period. Those spouses shall receive a monthly benefit for the rest of their lives. Granted, this will never replace a loved one, but their lives will be a little more financially secure. Four other spouses however experienced some very difficult proceedings which is the intent of this article.

These four widows were married to Viet Nam veterans. Veterans who died from medical conditions as a result of exposure to Agent Orange. Yet for some reason, or

reasons, those vets were not service connected! They never submitted a claim for a VA disability compensation for a condition which would have been awarded. As such, the surviving spouses face a more difficult process of applying for the benefit of DIC.

True - the surviving spouse is eligible to submit a claim for DIC since the vet's demise is caused by a presumptive medical condition. The problem is, the widow must gather all the necessary documents for the claim - veteran's discharge papers, medical records, verification of marriage, death certificate, and any other related documents. All this while in a state of bereavement. Essentially the surviving spouse is submitting a new claim for a disability which will take a lot longer for completion. However, if the veteran was already service connected for a condition causing death or contributing to death, the claim for survivor's benefits will be very, very simple and quick.

Perhaps I am preaching to the choir with all this. Still, for the reader not in the choir, consider these items.

**One** - Viet Nam veterans have earned

VA Benefits. Among those benefits are disability claims for medical conditions incurred while on active duty.

**Two** - If you have any condition on the VA's presumptive list and have not yet filed a disability claim for same - get off your cheeks, find a good Veteran Service Officer and file the claim!

**Three** - prepare for the inevitable. Share all the necessary info with your spouse.

**Four** - most importantly - share with the spouse what to do when the inevitable arrives. Preparing will make the process a whole lot easier.

By the way- the claim number for Survivors DIC is VA form 21P-534a

Another by the way - on page 8 in this edition of *Thunder Run* is an updated VA Agent Orange presumptive illnesses list.

Chuck Bosko  
708 205 3541  
chuckbosko@att.net

Allons

*PS- I may be difficult to get in contact with. However, I will reply.*

# THEN.....AND NOW

So, how were you treated when you returned home from Vietnam? How did people react when they found out you were a Vietnam veteran? I don't mean your family, who were undoubtedly glad to have you home in one piece. Were you a hero in your neighborhood, or did you slip quietly home and avoid attention to the fact you were a returning Vietnam Veteran? How did the folks in your church treat you? I had the privilege of returning to CONUS mid tour during Easter as my R&R. Standing at the door to the sanctuary of our church with my pastor after the Easter service I was shunned by the members of my own church.

When I DEROS'd I wore summer khakis on the flight from Saigon to Anchorage, Alaska. In the Anchorage International terminal, I (and everyone else on our returning flight ) were swarmed by Japanese tourists who got (and stayed) in our faces taking photographs of us and chattering in Japanese. While we didn't really know what they were saying, their tone was decidedly hostile. Welcome Home? After a connecting flight to Oakland, I was discharged from active duty. From Oakland Army terminal I took transportation to the San Francisco Airport for the next leg of my flight home to Baltimore. On that flight an Army Colonel approached me and complimented my uniform, and even complimented me for being "Strac" (you know what I mean !). But the other passengers seemed a lot less okay with my service. It was nothing overt, more unspoken, but they clearly made me feel uncomfortable. Trying to avoid any negative attention, In Chicago I ditched my uniform ( and combat ribbons) before I boarded the flight to my final destination in Baltimore. Instead, I put on a sport coat and tie with a peace sign tie tac (which I thought I had earned the right to wear).

I arrived home unannounced hoping to give my family a pleasant surprise. To my horror, when my guardian (the uncle that raised me) answered the front

**The public never really supported the war in Vietnam. It was an environment where draftees were refusing to serve, families were being torn apart as sons defied their WWII veteran fathers ideas of patriotism and service to our country.**

door he took one look and told me that I had to either remove the peace sign tie tack or be denied entry into the only home I had known since I was 10-years old. I left. WTF Over! Now not only was I burdened with the public disapproval of my service, but I was now being accused of being non-patriotic for wearing a peace sign.

The public never really supported the war in Vietnam. It was an environment where draftees were refusing to serve, families were being torn apart as sons defied their WWII veteran fathers ideas of patriotism and service to our country. Students and church groups were demonstrating against the war all over the country. Veterans were returning from the war to a hostile population who often took their frustrations out on the veterans themselves. Back in the day we were not appreciated or thanked by anyone for our service, instead being criticized and stigmatized for having served. Personally, I was just happy enough to have survived unscathed, to have been accepted back into college, and to have the opportunity to put Vietnam behind me and get on with my life. I consciously made the effort to forget Vietnam as if it never happened, and certainly to not draw attention to my Vietnam veteran status. I wasn't alone.

Like many veterans I was fortunate enough to return from the war and head to college on my VA benefits. But we found out very quickly that on many campuses opposition to the war remained so strong that it was in our best interest to keep our heads down to avoid harassment from our fellow students. What were we supposed to do?

We survived and we came home, albeit to a country that was less than supportive (at the time) of our sacrifices. Certainly, the military didn't go out of their way to assess whether or not we might have any issues and did virtually nothing to ease our integration back into a hostile society. We were expected to just "buck up" and carry on. THAT WAS THEN.

After many years the first real positive recognition of Vietnam Veterans came with the dedication of The Wall in Washington, D.C. As those of us who attended the dedication that day long ago marched as a disorganized mob up Constitution Avenue in route step, people lined the streets of the march route waving flags, shouting thanks; some even came into the street to hug us or shake our hands. How many of us were choking back tears that day? For that one day (at least) we felt we had finally been welcomed home and (perhaps) relieved of the onus of having served in Vietnam. The truth is that after that day we quickly faded again into the background as our country got involved in other conflicts.

Until the Global War On Terror (GWOT) our country's view of military service still failed to fully recognize and appreciate the sacrifices of our veterans (men and women). But the amazing thing is that the GWOT galvanized our country and led to an amazing transformation of public opinion about the virtues of military service. In the early years of the GWOT it enjoyed broad public and congressional support. However, as the war dragged on (for years) the public began to question the return on investment of American lives

and National treasure. In particular, opposition to our continued involvement in Afghanistan began to quietly grow. Folks began to question the administration's policies and the apparent lack of success in transferring full responsibility for the war to the Afghan military (sounds like Vietnam huh?). But in spite of opposition that slowly grew over the years, the onus for any perceived failures of the GWOT or the war in Afghanistan fell on the politicians, not the veterans themselves. This was dramatically different from the

Vietnam era. In the Vietnam Era the veterans were saddled with the public perception of a failed war and political policies in Vietnam. We (veterans) were judged guilty of being the instrument of those failed policies, and the perceived loss of the war.

NOW, the good news is that as a result of the GWOT positive public recognition and support for veterans of all eras (including Vietnam) has re-emerged. For the first time in 50+ years folks do not distinguish between then (our war) and now. Now we are all

heroes. I used to avoid wearing anything that identified me as a Vietnam Veteran. But now I proudly display my Blackhorse patch. I am amazed at the number of people who seem to go out of their way to engage me and thank me for my service. I feel like the country has finally accepted, acknowledged, and honored our service. I am heartened by the fact that the country again appreciates her veterans.

*K.H. Elliott, 541st MID,  
11th ACR Vietnam*

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## **K-TROOP from page 1**

past a dirt road in the village of Ben Cam. We went past the road and entered the village through the trees from the West. Ben Cam was a village with only a few houses. We looked through the village and didn't see anything out of the ordinary. At the far Southwest edge of the village was an old school building that was no longer in use. I remember the large chalkboard had been taken off the wall and was lying on the floor. The old schoolhouse was still the best building in the village, and it wasn't in very good shape. We then crossed an old logging road that was grown up in weeds and brush and entered the jungle heading south.

Greg Mazzotta and I were the point men for the patrol and were moving along slowly beside an old trail. Thirty yards or so into the jungle the trail ended at an old dried-up spring. The jungle was very thick, and the flank security could hardly move. The patrol leader, (SSG. Dennis Joyce) passed up word that he was having radio trouble and we would return to the tracks for new radios, and that we would go beside the old logging road as far as possible instead of into the jungle.

The whole patrol wasn't even into the jungle yet, so we reversed the patrol and that meant Mazzotta and me were now the rear guard for the patrol. Jackson and Pennington were now leading the patrol. About the time I returned to the old logging road we were ambushed. I think anti-personnel mine triggered the ambush, and then a hail of hand grenades then rifle fire and more grenades. One grenade landed between

## **One grenade landed between Greg Mazzotta and me, it hit Greg in the head knocking him unconscious but never exploded;...**

Greg Mazzotta and me, it hit Greg in the head knocking him unconscious but never exploded; as soon as I saw it wasn't going to explode I crawled over and grabbed it and threw it away from us (it never did explode). I'm glad it was a dud.

A few minutes later only three of us were not wounded, all three sergeants (Dennis Joyce, Robert Ausseresses, and James Pennington) were hurt, and Darrell Jackson had been killed. I remember rolling over to reload my M16 and seeing several grenades in the air at one time. About that time everything seemed to be in slow motion. After another few minutes everything seemed to get very quiet. We hoped they had left. I was looking after the ones in the rear of the patrol who were not severely wounded and Karl Miller our medic, was treating the severely wounded.

The radio would not work at all, and since only three of us were not wounded, Robert Harrison, the ranking SP4 decided Lawrence Koty, John Mutter, and me (Bill Lewellen) should go back to the tracks for help. After we left we heard a machine gun open fire, and we knew by the sound it wasn't one of ours. We feared what we would find when we returned. It probably was no more than one to one and a half miles to our tracks. We received sniper fire and were forced into the edge of the jungle, which

slowed us down some.

After reaching our tracks I returned with several other men, and we started back with two tanks into the area where we had been ambushed. The tanks could not cross a small stream and they returned to the company area. We received some fire from one side of the old logging road that had grown up in the brush, and at least two men were wounded. The enemy fire did not last very long.

SFC Clarence Corbin had taken the second platoon into the village and was behind the Viet Cong that were firing at us. The helicopters came in to pick up the wounded, (Dennis Joyce, Robert Ausseresses, James Pennington, Robert Harrison, Greg Mazzotta, Tom McNeal, Karl Miller, Dennis Kelley). I think there were 3 – 5 more that were also wounded in the ambush. We (Mike Jurgens, John Daly, Robert Gagliardi and me, Bill Lewellen) and 1 or 2 more carried Darrell Jackson out on a stretcher to the company area. I remember as it was starting to get dark, and I was finally back in my track. I felt very weak and needed to sit down. I think it had just hit me what had really happened, we had lost our first man in Vietnam from our platoon. Lt. Manning gave me Sgt. Ausseresses' track that night and I was a vehicle commander the remaining time I was in Vietnam.

# Cancers caused by Agent Orange

**Bladder cancer:** A type of cancer that affects the bladder where urine is stored before it leaves the body. The most common type of bladder cancer starts in the cells that line the inside of the bladder. This is called urothelial or transitional cell carcinoma.

**Chronic B-cell leukemia:** A type of cancer that affects white blood cells. These are cells in the body's immune system that help to fight off illnesses and infections.

**Hodgkin's disease:** A type of malignant lymphoma (cancer) that causes the lymph nodes, liver, and spleen to grow progressively larger. It also causes red blood cells to decrease more and more over time (called anemia).

**Multiple myeloma:** A type of cancer that affects the plasma cells. These are a type of white blood cells made in the bone marrow that help to fight infection.

**Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma:** A group of cancers that affect the lymph glands and other lymphatic tissue. These are parts of the immune system that help to fight infection and illness.

**Prostate cancer:** Cancer of the prostate and one of the most common cancers among men

**Respiratory cancers (including lung cancer):** Cancers of the organs involved in breathing. These include cancers of the lungs, larynx,

trachea, and bronchus.

Some soft tissue sarcomas: A group of different types of cancers in body tissues such as muscle, fat, blood and lymph vessels, and connective tissues. We don't include osteosarcoma, chondrosarcoma, Kaposi's sarcoma, or mesothelioma on our list of presumptive diseases.

## Other illnesses caused by Agent Orange

**AL amyloidosis:** A rare illness that happens when an abnormal protein (called amyloid) enters the body's tissues or organs. These include the organs like the heart, kidneys, or liver.

**Chloracne (or other types of acneiform disease like it):** A skin condition that happens soon after exposure to chemicals. It looks like common forms of acne often seen in teenagers. Under our rating regulations, this condition must be at least 10% disabling within 1 year of herbicide exposure.

**Diabetes mellitus type 2:** An illness that happens when the body can't respond to the hormone insulin the way it should. This leads to high blood sugar levels.

**Hypothyroidism:** A condition that causes the thyroid gland to not produce enough of certain important hormones. Hypothyroidism can cause health problems like obesity, joint pain, infertility,

and heart disease.

**Ischemic heart disease:** A type of heart disease that happens when the heart doesn't get enough blood. This leads to chest pain.

**Parkinsonism:** Any condition that causes a combination of abnormal movements. These include slow movements, trouble speaking, stiff muscles, or tremors. Tremors are rhythmic shaking movements in a part of the body caused by muscle contractions that you can't control.

**Parkinson's disease:** A progressive disorder of the nervous system that affects muscle movement—and often worsens over time. The nervous system is the network of nerves and fibers that send messages between the brain and spinal cord and other areas of the body.

**Peripheral neuropathy, early onset:** An illness of the nervous system that causes numbness, tingling, and motor (or muscle) weakness. Under our rating regulations, this condition must be at least 10% disabling within 1 year of herbicide exposure.

**Porphyria cutanea tarda:** A rare illness that can make the liver stop working the way it should. It can also cause the skin to thin and blister when exposed to the sun. Under our rating regulations, this condition must be at least 10% disabling within 1 year of herbicide exposure.

## Blackhorse Troopers!! We Need Your Help

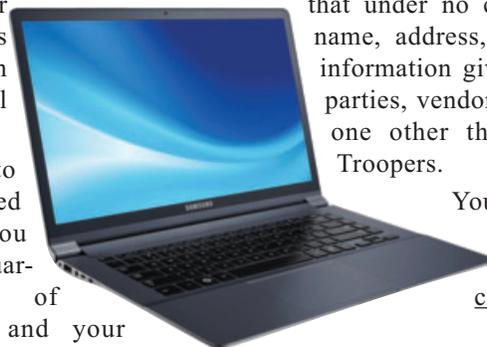
We started recording membership information back in 1986. At that time and forward, we had your address and home telephone number. Forward to 2022 and many of us have mobile phones and email addresses. Many who purchased mobile phones cancelled their home phones. Email and other platforms have allowed us to communicate like never before. Many of our members have moved through the years. While we

make every effort to maintain current mailing addresses, it's been difficult to keep phone numbers and email addresses current. At times our directors need to contact you only to hear the recording that your home phone is no longer in service, or email is not on file.

In order to keep you posted and assure you receive your quarterly issues of *Thunder Run* and your

annual calendar, we need to make sure your information is current and correct. Please complete the information on the enclosed envelope and return to the address given. It is important to note that under no circumstances is your name, address, phone, or any other information given or sold to outside parties, vendors or disclosed to anyone other than other Blackhorse Troopers.

You can also email this information to: [11thcav1966@comcast.net](mailto:11thcav1966@comcast.net)



# An Addiction We Don't Talk About

*"Vietnam : You Never Lived Until You Nearly Died"*

*Elif Shafak*

At some point , we rotated "back to the world" and discovered the normal we had become used too wasn't anything like the normal we knew back in the world.

**H**ave ever been scared ? I mean really scared ?

Fear is an amazing thing. It can range the gamut from a little anxious to absolutely terrorized. At the very least an unexpected event can take you by surprise, give you a brief start, perhaps a momentary rush of adrenaline, even a little bump in your heartbeat. It might even make you giggle when you're watching your favorite horror movie. Or, it could be a low level sense of unease and anxiety that builds slowly over time while you worry about something you're "afraid" might happen. The intensity of that fear rises in proportion to the seriousness of the personal threat you anticipate as a result of whatever the situation is.

At the low end a little fear can even be fun. At the high end you can experience "fight or flight". It is evidenced by a sudden occurrence, often outside your immediate control, that bears the threat of serious, if not life threatening consequences. It can make you runaway as fast as you can, or paralyze your muscles. It can cause you to shake uncontrollably, steal your voice, take your breath, virtually stop your heart, or make you pee your pants. Perhaps worst of all it can completely interrupt your ability to make rational decisions and take actions to ensure your self preservation.

In a combat zone some level of constant fear became our new normal. It was present whether in contact with the enemy, or in a rear area worrying about improvised explosive devices (IED's), suicide attacks, sappers, rockets, mortars, or an alien environment that includes lethal species other than enemy soldiers. It was characterized by a constant sense

of heightened alertness and repressed fear, on guard against potentially life threatening situations, perhaps interspersed with sudden moments of terror during attacks. In the course of a deployment, we adjusted to the constant up and down flow of adrenaline. Over time it became so routine that many of us didn't even realize that we were becoming addicted to the physical, psychological, and emotional changes adrenaline ("the rush") was causing.

At some point , we rotated "back to the world" and discovered the normal we had become used too wasn't anything like the normal we knew back in the world. There was no resemblance between the armed and dangerous environment we just left, and the new "alien" environment (home ?) we had suddenly been dropped back into, with little or no decompression time or any organized effort to help us readjust. What many discovered was that In Vietnam they had become addicted to the intoxicating rush of adrenaline. Now, back in the world we were missing "the rush" our previous experiences had provided. To everyone else we looked normal, but we were anything but.....and like with any kind of addiction, we had grown to expect it (the rush), to seek it, and ultimately upon returning home to even suffer a sort of withdrawal. The outcome was predictable.

While most returning veterans were able to cope well with the transition back to the world, some of us couldn't let go of the need for that rush. The result was that a lot of returning veterans began to seek other activities that would generate the adrenaline flow they had become accustomed to. The problem is that some of the activities we chose to pursue were

potentially self destructive. Motorcycles and fast cars (reckless driving), heavy use of drugs or alcohol, violent behavior, criminal activities, and pursuit of other dangerous hobbies were just some of the outlets we sought. Anything that could generate a near death experience became especially prized. Maybe we thought we were indestructible, or maybe we wondered why we had survived Vietnam when others had not. At any rate our behavior was characterized by what appeared to be a total lack of concern for our own well being. For us it was (is ?) invigorating, but for our families and friends it caused concern, and despite our denials in many cases others realized maybe we needed help. It is problematic that many veterans have lost (and continue to lose) their lives either through suicide, or in pursuit of rush inducing self destructive behaviors that they either do not recognize, or choose not to accept as originating with what they experienced during their deployments. The damage done extends to the families of those affected. The problem is not confined to veterans of Vietnam; the military is starting to recognize these same behavioral issues in veterans returned from Iraq and Afghanistan.

We need a reliable way to evaluate veterans returning from high stress deployments to identify the potential for these behaviors. Giving a returning veteran a questionnaire to self-assess the possible need for help assumes every veteran will be honest with themselves and give true answers. In many cases that just isn't a realistic expectation.

Although the VA makes a lot of resources available to help veterans who reach out for the help, a lot of Vietnam era veterans slipped through the net upon their return. I've met any number of veterans who aren't willing to admit the need to seek behavioral or PTSD counseling because of the stigma they associate with mental health issues. And besides, for some, there's still an unwillingness to give up that rush that reminds us of a time when we felt so alive.

*K.H. Elliott, 541st MID, 11th ACR*

# Timing is Everything

I have been a very blessed and lucky individual. I grew up on a small dairy farm in rural Nevada. I learned how to work hard and how to treat everyone at an early age. My three sisters and I were influenced by our parents and 4-H Club work is where we learned much of what we took into the world. I was commissioned through Army ROTC at the University of Nevada and as a 2LT I became an Armor Officer. After training troops at Fort Knox, KY I received orders to report to Ft. Meade and the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment. Assigned as the Platoon Leader of 2nd Platoon, K Troop on May 1, 1966, I reported to Camp A.P. Hill. After Nam I spent eight months in Fort Lewis, WA at a Basic Training Center then joined the Nevada National Guard as Troop Commander of K Troop of the 121st Armored Cavalry.

**My great timing is that I was assigned to a platoon of great young men**, mostly from small towns in the Midwest and Eastern parts of the US. I had much in common with these men and we took the time to get know each other during our time at Camp AP Hill (pizza and beer on Saturday nights), Ft. Meade and on the USS Barrett. (Side note: I am in contact with many of them to this day). It is easy to talk about all the time we spent in the field making stew and hoping we did not draw the Lima Beans for dinner. Yes, being part of many missions including Junction City, we all remember but it was after Captain Halstead was wounded some 25 days before Captain Ron Hoffman came aboard as our Troop Commander that my life changed. Taking the Troop for those 25 days and being able to work with 1st SGT Sherman Smith was special. Only 23 years old and having the responsibility for the lives of ~125 men was special. I was fortunate that I had a great track crew as a Platoon Leader and I learned a lot from my driver Phil Fake, a man of very few words, and John Turner. John handled my track all the time and I never had to worry about anything but leading the men every day. John and I are still very close today and talk at least monthly. On the command track I also had very good men and SGT Frank Fagan in charge of communication was really special for our Troop.

As I became the Troop XO life got more boring and not being with the Platoons in the jungle daily was not my favorite time. Our lives changed very rapidly on May 21, 1967, when the First Platoon was ambushed at Soui Cat by a VC Battalion which would have been some 1,500 men. You can read details on this battle which took the lives of 17 soldiers at [www.11thcav.com/main/homer.htm](http://www.11thcav.com/main/homer.htm). Captain Herbert Hertel also wrote a great and extensive after-action report. **My timing was that I was the XO manning the command track and did not get into the fire fight.**

On June 18, 1967, Lt Tepper from L Troop came to me and said there were two officer three day passes to Vung Tau (in country R&R location) and he was going. Would I check with Captain Hoffman to see if I could go also? The Captain said yes and we caught a flight out. We were at the Vung Tau airport to catch a flight back to the field on the morning of 6/20/1967 when we noted everyone was reading the Stars & Stripes newspaper. I picked one up and learned about the K Troop horror of the morning of 6/19/67. This is known as Slope 30 where up to 5,000 VC soldiers, which

**I think of the three days in 1967 so often – 5/21, 6/19, and 7/21. We lost 26 men while I was in country on those three days and 26 men over the next three plus years.**

were three battalions, were moving toward the night laager position of K Troop and one Platoon of M Company which had within its night position a zippo flame thrower, one platoon of the 919th engineers, HHT 3/11 command post and HOW 3/11. SSG Schumacher led a patrol of ten men that alerted the main laager position of the incoming buffalo and VC. Seven of the ten men on the patrol were killed and the other three badly wounded. Gerald Bright was taken to the makeshift morgue as a KIA but woke up there as the detail was leaving the room. Wayne Stidel and Steve Utter were also badly wounded.

**My timing was that I was in Vung Tau on the morning of 6/19/67 at the time of the attack.** Refer to an article written by Bill Lewellen in this issue. Captain Hoffman wrote an article for ARMOR magazine in the January – February 1968 edition called 'The Affray at Slope 30.' Learn more about Captain Hoffman in this article but know he read the Wall Street Journal every night in the field, spoke seven languages, was a great soldier, served three tours in RVN and was the best leader I had the opportunity to work for and with.

For ten days in July 1967 Captain Hoffman was on a R&R out of country so as the XO I had the command of K Troop. We were back working in the Gia Ray / Soui Cat area. I brought the troop back to base camp on the evening of July 20, 1967. I remember being greeted by Captain Hoffman and he told me two things. The first was that this was my last day in the field. A new Lt was assigned to the 2nd Platoon and Lt. Farley would assume the duties of XO. My out of country departure date was July 27, 1967. Captain Hoffman then asked me to please make sure all the men got a hot meal, hot shower and that all weapons were cleaned and ready to go as the Troop was leaving early the next morning. The morning of July 21, 1967, K Troop was on a Squadron mission north of Highway 1 with L Troop leading. The battle that followed resulted in three deaths for K Troop. Captain Hoffman lost one of his eyes as his track was hit hard and the driver killed. **My timing was that this ambush happened the day after I had the troop out on mission and on my first day out of the field.**

We have no control of so many things in our lives, but timing is just an act of God, and I was blessed. I think of the three days in 1967 so often – 5/21, 6/19, and 7/21. We lost 26 men while I was in country on those three days and 26 men over the next three plus years. Darrell Jackson was KIA 10/14/66. I go to the Vietnam Wall and know I have 30 men there including a very close friend, a cousin and a neighbor but most of all I have 27 men I knew and fought with. I count my blessings and timing.

*Captain Chuck Burr*

# Policy Number 3: Reunion Assistance Fund

**History:** In 1989, the Officers and Directors of 11th ACVVC agreed there was a need for monies to assist our member Troopers in getting to a reunion. Prior to 1989, the organization received many calls for assistance directly from the Trooper needing assistance or from the buddy of a Trooper hoping to get his buddy to the reunion. It was decided in 1989 that during the meeting of its members, a “passing of the hat” for donations would take place. With those donated funds, the 11th ACVVC could assist in getting some Troopers who might otherwise not attend because of monetary limitations.

During the 2008 Reunion Members Business Meeting, the Board of Directors proposed and the membership passed Motion 2008-0823A to modify the definition and name of the fund to include immediate family members (Parents, siblings, children, widows) of our KIAs. During the 2019 Meeting of the Board of Directors Motion 1019-0821K was passed that expanded the “immediate family members” definition to also include grandchildren.

**Purpose Statement:** The purpose of the Reunion Assistance Fund is to assist, if requested, Troopers who served with the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment in Vietnam and the Kingdom of Cambodia, and Survivors of our Troopers Killed in Action in Vietnam and Cambodia, to attend a reunion sponsored by the 11th Armored Cavalry’s Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia. Qualified applicants will be given one or more of the following items, depending on the number of requests, funds depletion, and the degree of assistance required:

1. A room at the host hotel for one or two nights during the reunion weekend.
2. Funds to purchase fuel for auto, tickets for airfare or other means of transportation such as bus fare or train fare.

During the 2008 Reunion Members Business Meeting, the Board of Director proposed and the membership passed Motion 2008-0823A to modify the definition and name of the fund to include immediate family members (Parents, siblings, children, widows) of our KIAs.

3. Registration fees.
4. Meals or food allowance.

**Maintenance of Funds:** Funds collected through direct donations or the “passing of the hat” at the annual membership Business Meeting shall be maintained and accounted for by the Treasurer. The Treasurer shall include the Assistance Fund as a separate reporting item on the quarterly financial report. The Treasurer shall dispense funds from this account as directed by the Officers and Directors of the 11th ACVVC.

**Rules of Acceptance:** To be accepted for consideration for assistance, the Trooper or the KIA’s immediate family members (defined as Parents, siblings, children, widows and grandchildren) requesting financial assistance to attend a Reunion of the 11th ACVVC, must:

1. Do so in writing to the Secretary or the President, **and**
2. Provide evidence of the Trooper’s service in Vietnam and/or Cambodia with the 11th Armored Cavalry “Blackhorse” Regiment.

The applicant Trooper or KIA survivor should describe his/her need for monetary assistance, briefly stating his/her financial situation (i.e., job, income, family, or other relevant facts). In addition, the Trooper may be required to show proof that he is a member, or that he is qualified to become a member, of the 11th ACVVC.

Recipients will only be allowed this assistance one time. Exceptions to the one time only use of the Reunion Assistance Fund will be addressed on a case-by-case basis by the President and the Treasurer.

Exceptions to the “one time only” rule will rarely be granted and will never be allowed in consecutive years.

The President of 11th ACVVC will decide whom and how much assistance will be given to a Trooper or Survivor of a KIA. The President and Treasurer shall not divulge the names of those assisted Troopers to anyone other than another current Officers and/or Directors.

The Secretary and President will maintain a listing of those who have been assisted and will pass on to their successors.

## TWENTY-TWO

by Robert K. Euge  
11th Armored Cav. 1969-1970

Uncle Sam woke up today,  
Here’s what he had to say,  
Please not again today,  
He had twenty-two prayers to say,  
One for each father and son,  
One for each mother and daughter.

Some died homeless,  
Some died hopeless,  
Some died broken hearted,  
Uncle Sam is sad today.

Some drank themselves away,  
Substance took some away,  
Uncle Sam is sad today,  
A sadness that won’t go away

Wanting dreams but getting nightmares,  
A sadness that won’t go away,  
Uncle Sam laid down today,  
Not knowing what to say.

### 11th ACVVC 2021 Calendar Donations, 2nd Qtr 2022

| Contributions.....       | Donors .....     | Levels .....   | Class Limits  |
|--------------------------|------------------|----------------|---------------|
| \$8,000.00 .....         | 14 .....         | platinum ..... | \$500 - +     |
| \$47,610.00 .....        | 419 .....        | gold.....      | \$100 - \$499 |
| \$15,380.00 .....        | 299 .....        | silver .....   | \$50 - \$99   |
| <u>\$16,619.26 .....</u> | <u>831 .....</u> | bronze .....   | \$1 - \$49    |
| <b>\$87,609.26 .....</b> | <b>1563</b>      |                |               |

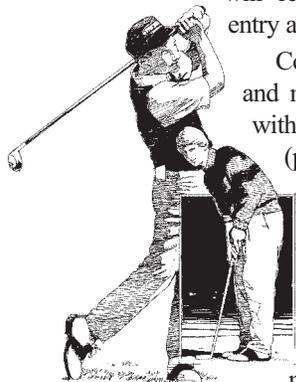
# THE 29TH ANNUAL MARTY OGNIBENE MEMORIAL GOLF OUTING

Thursday, September 8, 2022, 0830, Roebuck Golf Course, 8920 Roebuck Boulevard, Birmingham, AL 35206, (205) 836-7318

Roebuck was designed by British architect Herbert Barker debuting in 1911 as Roebuck Springs Country Club. This municipal course was the site of Bobby Jones first tournament win in 1915 with Joe Coopet on the bag.

The course is an old-school parkland layout, where what you see is pretty much what you get. The majority of the holes are straightaway and there is only one blind shot on the entire track. Length is not an issue, measuring 6,324 yards from the tips and a shade over 6,000 yards from the regular men's tees. Accuracy is a must, as all fairways are tree-lined and there are a few holes that require navigating a canal that runs throughout.

\$95 will get you golf, cart, balls, tees, lunch and prizes. Note: Roebuck does not offer club rentals. If you need to rent clubs, you can contact ClubHub at 1-888-978-1022. Roebuck is approximately 8 miles northeast of the Sheraton Birmingham hotel. It is the golfer's responsibility to get to the golf course by 0800. We will have a shot gun start at 0830. All registered golfers will receive confirmation of their entry and info in the mail.



Complete the adjacent form and mail it to the address shown with a check for \$95 per golfer (payable to Peter L. Walter).

Form must be received by Aug 25, 2022 to guarantee your entry! We cannot guarantee late registrations or walkups as the golf course will not be able to accommodate this. You do not need a

foursome to enter. Include your average score for 18 holes and you'll be paired with a golfer of equal talent or include the names of all golfers in the group for whom you are paying. This outing is open to men and women. Dress code: no denim, shirts must have collars, shorts must be Bermuda length, soft spikes only! Call 609-261-5629 if you have questions. You will receive confirmation of your registration in the mail. All entries must be prepaid; shotgun start @ 0830, lunch and prizes following golf. Don't delay!!! Mail today!!! **"FORE!"**

## 29TH ANNUAL MARTY OGNIBENE MEMORIAL GOLF OUTING

(Please include e-mail address if you have one)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Average Score \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name \_\_\_\_\_ Average Score \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name \_\_\_\_\_ Average Score \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name \_\_\_\_\_ Average Score \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Mail Checks To: **Pete Walter, 8 Tallowood Dr., Westhampton, NJ 08060**

## 2022 11TH ACVVC REUNION SHIRT ORDER FORM

All pre-ordered shirts will be available for pick-up at the Quartermaster Store during the 2022 reunion in Birmingham, AL.

**Orders must be received by August 6, 2022.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_



**Shirt Color:** Ash w/reunion logo embroidered on left side; name, unit, date, year on right side.

**Adult Sizes:** S, M, L, XL - \$44.00 each / 2XL, 4XL - \$46.00 each. **Shirt size:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Shipping:** If you can't attend the reunion, you can still order the shirt. Add \$7 for shipping and we will mail your shirt to you.

- Visa  
 MasterCard

Prices include up to 3 lines of 40 characters per line of personalized embroidery (Name, Unit, Dates, Etc.)

PLEASE PRINT

Line 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Line 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Line 3: \_\_\_\_\_

Card No. \_\_\_\_\_ CVC Code \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature (Required for credit card) \_\_\_\_\_

# 2022 Silent Auction

The 2021 Silent Auction raised \$6,593 for the 11th ACVVC Scholarship Fund with 199 items donated and available for bid. The donated items included many hand-crafted items and one-of-a-kind items with a Blackhorse theme. We are not allowed to have alcoholic beverages or firearms in the auction as many state laws prohibit it. We look forward to another successful auction.

The auction process will be as follows:

1. Items are needed for the Silent Auction to be conducted during our 37th Annual Reunion in Birmingham, Alabama. Items peculiar to the 11th Cavalry are always favorites, and any item of value is welcome, Cavalry related or not.

2. We will have a collection site set-up in the registration area to collect donated items brought to the reunion beginning on Wednesday from 1pm to

5pm, Thursday from 1pm to 5pm, and Friday from 1pm to 4pm.

3. You can ship items to John Welch, to collect, hold and bring the items to the reunion for display. If you plan to ship items, please use the convenient Silent Auction Donor Form printed in this issue. If you bring the items to the reunion, also complete the donation form and include it with the item.

4. The auction will be from 6pm to 9pm on Friday night with the bidding ending precisely at 9pm. Those in wheelchairs or motorized chairs will be allowed in at 5:45 to allow them a little time to view the items before the crowds enter.

5. Winning bidders must be present, pick up their items and pay for them between 9pm and 9:30pm after the bidding is closed.

6. If the item is not picked up, the item will be awarded to the next highest bid at 9:30 or auctioned off at 9:45pm

Friday evening. The bid form will have a place for you to leave a cell phone number in case we need to call you to let you know to pick up your item.

7. We will be able to accept cash, checks, Visa or MasterCard for payment.

We do need volunteers to work the collection site and the night of the auction. We are setting up the collection site schedule in 2-hour shifts and if you would like to volunteer please contact me at [gregmason311@gmail.com](mailto:gregmason311@gmail.com) or 813-220-9027. I will respond to your email as I receive them.

Our reason for requiring items to be picked up and paid for the evening of the auction is because of the difficulties we have had in prior years getting all the items delivered and paid for. We appreciate your understanding.

We look forward to seeing you in Birmingham and thanks in advance to all the donors!

## 11th ACVVC Silent Auction

### Donated Items Information Form

Please provide the following information with your donated item. If you wish to donate anonymously, please check the box below.  
**Please print clearly.**

Description of item donated: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name of Donor: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Donor: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # of Donor: \_\_\_\_\_ Value of Item Donated \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to remain anonymous (check box)

Mail silent auction items to: 11th ACVVC, C/O John Welch, 3248 Crossings Drive, Birmingham, AL 35242-4475



**Membership is Our Strength**  
It's not the price you pay to belong, it's the price you paid to become eligible to join





**11th ACVVC 37th Reunion  
Schedule Birmingham, Alabama  
September 5 - 11, 2022**



*(Preliminary, subject to change!)*

**Tuesday, September 6**  
3:00 PM

**Rooms available for set up**

**Storage - Room 5C East**

**Wednesday, Sept. 7**

10:00 am - 5:00 pm  
2:00 pm - 6:00 pm  
2:00 pm - 12:00 am  
5:00 pm - 8:00 pm  
1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Quartermaster Store open  
Registration open  
Bunker open  
BOD Meeting  
Silent Auction Items Accepted

Room 5M East (proposed)  
East Registration Desk  
Birmingham Ballroom  
Room 5B East  
East Registration Desk

**Thursday, Sept. 8**

8:00am -3:00 pm  
9:00 am - 5:00 pm  
2:00 pm - 6:00 pm  
2:00 pm - 12:00 am  
1:00 pm- 5:00 pm

29th Annual Marty Ognibene Golf Outing  
Quartermaster Store open  
Registration open  
Bunker open  
Silent Auction Items Accepted

Roebuck Golf Course  
Room 5M East (proposed)  
East Registration Desk  
Birmingham Ballroom  
East Registration Desk

**Friday, Sept. 9**

9:00 am - 5:00 pm  
10:00am - 12 noon  
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm  
2:00 pm - 9:00 pm  
2:00 pm - 12:00 am  
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm  
9:00 pm - 10:00 pm

Quartermaster Store open  
Veterans Seminar  
Silent Auction Items Accepted  
Registration open  
Bunker open  
Silent Auction sell off  
Silent Auction Pay/Pick up

Room 5M East (proposed)  
Room 5A East  
East Registration Desk  
East Registration Desk  
Birmingham Ballroom  
East Ballroom A  
East Ballroom A

**Saturday, Sept. 10**

9:00 am - 12:00 pm  
9:00am - 12:00 pm  
2:00 pm - 3:00 pm  
3:00 pm - 5:00 pm  
3:00 pm - 5:00 pm  
5:45 pm - 6:45 pm  
6:00 PM  
7:00 pm - 10:00 pm  
10:00 pm - 1:00 am

Annual Membership Meeting  
Women's Meeting  
Memorial Service  
Quartermaster Store open  
Registration open for late arrivals  
Cocktail Hour (Cash Bar)  
Banquet Room Doors Open  
Banquet, Presentations and Salute  
Dancing (DJ)

East Ballroom B  
Room N East  
East Ballroom B  
Room 5M East (proposed)  
East Registration Desk  
Birmingham Ballroom Foyer  
  
Birmingham Ballroom  
Birmingham Ballroom Foyer

**Sunday, Sept. 11**

10:00 am - 11:00 am  
All Day

Worship Service  
Farewell and Safe Travels

East Ballroom B  
No space Required

*(Preliminary, subject to change!)*

REGISTRATION FORM



37th Annual 11th ACVVC Reunion  
Birmingham, Alabama September 5-11, 2022



Sheraton Birmingham Hotel  
2101 Richard Arrington Jr. Blvd. North, Birmingham, Ala. 35203  
Reservations- 205-307-5000

Registration fee is \$100 per person. This fee is required for attendance at the Wednesday, Thursday and Friday night Bunker Parties and Saturday evening banquet dinner.

All registrations must be received by Monday, August 8, 2022. Any registration received after this date will be returned. Registration refunds will be paid in full to our members if cancellation is received by the Treasurer no later than Monday, August 29, 2022.

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION  
(print clearly or use mailing label)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone No: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Unit Assignment \_\_\_\_\_ Dates in Country \_\_\_\_\_  
(Example: B TRP, D CO - List only one unit. This is your banquet seating.) (Example: 1966-1967)

KIA Relative?  Yes, Name of KIA: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to KIA: \_\_\_\_\_ Unit: \_\_\_\_\_

**ATTENDEES, INCLUDING YOURSELF (please print)**

|                               |                 |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| _____                         | \$ _____        |
| _____                         | \$ _____        |
| _____                         | \$ _____        |
| _____                         | \$ _____        |
| _____                         | \$ _____        |
| _____                         | \$ _____        |
| <b>Total Registration Fee</b> | <b>\$ _____</b> |

Banquet Meal Selection (Indicate number for each selection) Chicken \_\_\_ Beef \_\_\_ Fish \_\_\_ Veg \_\_\_

Is this your first reunion?  Yes  No Wheelchair or special needs banquet seating?  Yes

Visa  MasterCard

Card No. \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature (Required for credit card) \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to 11th ACVVC. Please mail registration form along with payment to:**

11th ACVVC  
C/O OLLIE PICKRAL  
571 DITCHLEY RD  
KILMARNOCK, VA 22482



# SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE & IMPORTANT INFORMATION

by Mike "Doc" Rafferty, Director and Scholarship Chairman



## 11th ACVVC Raffle to Benefit Scholarship Program in 2022

### Board Member and Scholarship Committee Chairman

The proceeds from this year's raffle will go towards providing scholarships for the children and grandchildren of life members, deceased life members, and our KIAs. If you have a grandchild or child who is planning on attending a university, community college or trade school, please encourage them to apply for an 11th ACVVC scholarship. Please advise them to look at the scholarship guide and application on our website ([www.11thcavnam.com/scholar.htm](http://www.11thcavnam.com/scholar.htm)) or contact me for more information or if they have questions.

You can help fund the scholarship program by participating in the 2022 raffle. The drawing will be held Saturday, September 10th during the 37th annual reunion in Birmingham, Alabama. You need not be present to win. Only one prize per person (if your name is drawn

twice, you will receive the higher prize). The suggested ticket price is \$1.00 per ticket and is not tax deductible. The prize pool consists of:

- 1st place (\$500)
- 2nd place (\$400)
- 3rd place (\$300)
- 4th place (\$200)
- ...and eleven \$100 prizes.

Raffle tickets will be mailed to all 11th ACVVC members in May. Please consider purchasing tickets to help fund this important program. If you do not wish to participate in the raffle you are still welcome to send a donation to the 11th ACVVC scholarship program.

"Doc"

## 11th ACVVC Scholarship Reminder

Scholarship applications are due May 15, 2022. If you have questions or need an application, go to our website ([11thCavNam.com](http://11thCavNam.com)) or contact me as soon as possible.

Mike "Doc" Rafferty, [Platoonmedic36@gmail.com](mailto:Platoonmedic36@gmail.com), 575-915-2921

## WISCONSIN BLACKHORSE TROOPERS

This is your opportunity to meet with other Wisconsin Blackhorse troopers for breakfast and a meet and greet.

**When:** Thursday, May 19, 2022

**Where:** Paul's Neighborhood Bar, 2401 Parmenter St, Middleton WI 53562

- Meet and Greet will start at 7:00 am (pictures and any other items to share)
- Guest Speaker at 9:00 am - 115th Fighter Wing, Wisconsin Air National Guard
- Finish up about 11:00 am

Special Breakfast from Paul: 2 eggs, meat, coffee and tip for a special price (\$10-\$12)

**Contact:**

Lee Nelson (HHT 1/11, 1968-69)  
[leecnelson1926@gmail.com](mailto:leecnelson1926@gmail.com) or





**11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam & Cambodia  
Scholarship Application (effective September 9th, 2021)**  
Please review Scholarship Guide at [www.11thcavnam.com/scholar.html](http://www.11thcavnam.com/scholar.html)  
**Application Deadline May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022**



**IMPORTANT: A PERSON WHO HAS BEEN AWARDED AN 11<sup>TH</sup> ACVVC SCHOLARSHIP IS NOT ELIGIBLE TO APPLY AGAIN.  
Students working on advanced degrees (master's, doctoral) are not eligible to apply.**

Applicant's full name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's social security number: \_\_\_\_\_ E mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Street address: \_\_\_\_\_ Apt./Unit # \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

**Applicant's Status:**  Child  Grandchild of a current life member of the 11<sup>th</sup> ACVVC.  
 Child  Grandchild of a deceased life member of the 11<sup>th</sup> ACVVC.  
 Child  Grandchild of an 11th ACR veteran who was killed in action in Vietnam or  
**Cambodia.**

Your Sponsor (11<sup>th</sup> Cav Veteran): Full name: \_\_\_\_\_ E mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor's 11<sup>th</sup> Cav unit in Vietnam: \_\_\_\_\_ Dates in Vietnam \_\_\_\_\_ 11thACVVC member# \_\_\_\_\_

-----  
Name and Address of College or Trade School you plan to attend: What is your major? \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Schools and Colleges Attended (10<sup>th</sup> Grade to Present)**

| Name  | City, State | Dates (From/To) |
|-------|-------------|-----------------|
| _____ | _____       | _____           |
| _____ | _____       | _____           |
| _____ | _____       | _____           |

**You must attach a copy of your grade transcripts from your last 2 yrs. of High School or College.  
Requirements: at least a 3.5 unweighted Grade Point Average for applicants pursuing a 4 yr. degree. At least a 3.0 unweighted Grade Point Average for trade or vocational school applicants.**

-----  
**Briefly tell us about your extra-curricular and volunteer activities and include your name and email address on a separate sheet of paper.**

I, the undersigned verify the answers given above are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I give my permission for a copy of my high school/college grade transcripts to be submitted with this application.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature of Applicant** **Printed Name** **Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature of Sponsor Veteran or Guardian** **Printed Name** **Date**

Please send your completed application and grade transcripts to:  
**Mike "Doc" Rafferty, 11<sup>th</sup> ACVVC Scholarship Chairman, PO Box 13188, Las Cruces, New Mexico 88013**  
Email: [platoonmedic36@gmail.com](mailto:platoonmedic36@gmail.com)

# 11TH ACVVC DONATIONS

Donor Levels: Platinum Level \$500+ Gold Level \$100-\$499 Silver Level \$50-\$99 Bronze Level \$1-\$49

Members donations are used for the sole purpose for which they are intended. Whether it be for Scholarship, Reunion Assistance, Memorial or the General Fund, member donations are used to support that specific fund.

## General Fund

### Platinum Level

Rosini, Ricco  
In Honor of, Thomas Rosini

### Gold Level

Rodriguez, Raymundo  
In Memory of Ken Naidas

## Scholarship Fund

### Platinum Level

Larner, Wayne  
Organ, Richard  
In Honor of PSG  
Harold, L. Montana - KIA 1/15/67  
Wallace, Peter

### Gold Level

Boitnott, Harlan  
Cartwright, Wavely  
Coopet, Joseph  
Field, Richard  
Fischer, George  
Gehring, Joseph  
In Memory of Yolanda Gehring  
Helm, Thomas  
Marin, Henry  
Mollhoff, Wayne  
Prendergast, Mark  
Sussman, Bob  
Worthey, Donna  
In Honor of, Larry Cole

### Bronze Level

Harris, Lemuel

## Assistance Fund

### Gold Level

Buening, Edward  
In Memory of Terry Cioffi

### Silver Level

Cook, Mr. and Mrs. Charles

Gehring, Joe  
Gregorio, Adrienne  
Treglia, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph  
Walsh, Mr. and Mrs. Stephen  
In Memory of Terry Cioffi  
Jankel, Ken

### Bronze Level

Principe, Roseann  
In Memory of Terry Cioffi

## Memorial Fund

### Gold Level

Gossett, Nancy  
In Memory of Daniel Moeller  
Lindell, Craig  
McMasters, Cary and Doris  
In Memory of Daniel Moeller

## Calendar Fund

### Platinum Level

Barber, John  
Coover, David  
Creal, Dennis  
Endres, Bradley  
Gaston, William  
Gregels, Michael  
Johnson, Kenneth  
Justesen, Richard  
Kester, Larry  
McGrath, Thomas  
McGregor, Stewart  
Rucker, Richard  
Swartz, Larry  
Ware, Ralph

### Gold Level

Andersen, Kevin  
Anderson, David  
Armstrong, R.W.  
Aston, Russell  
Atchley, John  
Atkins, John  
Avila, Arlando

Bahnsen, John  
Bailey, Benjamin  
Barnes, William  
Barnes, Douglas  
Barrett, Donald  
Barrows, William  
Bayer, Karl  
Belver, James  
Bigley, Robert  
Binns, James  
Blaisdell, John  
Blake, Lewis  
Boles, Edward  
Borri, Steven  
Bosko, Charles  
Bowen, J.S.  
Bowen, Alfred  
Bowman, Robert  
Brannam, Jerry  
Brawn, Bill  
Brickert, Warren  
Brill, Grey  
Brody, Thomas  
Brooks, Timothy  
Brown, Robert L.  
Brydge, Donald  
Buchholz, Richard  
Buczowski, John  
Buening, Edward  
Bumpass, James  
Burke, Timothy  
Burns, John  
Burwick, Larry  
Calhoun, Dwight  
Campbell, Douglas  
Caporiccio, Guy  
Cartwright, Wavely  
Caruso, Frank  
Caso, Victor  
Cassano, Salvatore  
Cederquist, Dennis  
Chappell, Robert  
Chipman, Stephen  
Christeson, Frank  
Church, Frank  
Clark, John  
Cornelius, Jerry  
Costa, John  
Courtney, Thomas  
Cox, Ronald  
Cox, Ralph

Cox, Alan  
Cox, Daryl  
Crabbs, Richard  
Cranford, William  
Crawford, David  
Croft, Robert  
Cronk, Raymond  
Croskey, Phillip  
Culver, Gary  
Cumpston, Samuel  
Cunningham, John  
Cupp, Bryan  
Dalegowski, Gary  
Dalton, David  
Dart, Larry  
Daub, August  
Davis, Glen  
Davis, Greg  
Davis, Randall  
Davis, Matthew  
De Caprio, Anthony  
De Long, Robert  
Decker, Joseph  
DeMasi, Ralph  
Dennis, Steve  
Dobbs, John  
Dowding, Arthur  
Doyle, Robert  
Drake, David  
Drake, Charles  
Effinger, John  
Eggleton, Andrew  
Eichelberger, Jerald  
Ellingson, Ken  
Elliott, Frederick  
Ellis, Stephen  
Emery, Dennis  
England, Billy  
Enloe, Ernest  
Epperly, Mason  
Eriser, James  
Ernst, Leslie  
Evens, Steven  
Fain, Clifford  
Famian, Herbert  
Fea, Michael  
Fedorinichik, William  
Ferreira, John  
Fierro, Jose  
Filbert, John  
Finnerin, Arthur

Finnerty, John  
Fisher, Kenneth  
Fisher, Lee  
Fisher, Robert  
Fixx, Darrell  
Flanagan, Hershel  
Flick, Walter  
Foreman, James  
Franks, Frederick  
Frayne, Clifford  
Frazier, Wiley  
Fries, William  
Frizzell, Leo  
Gallman, David  
Gauld, David  
Geesey, Ken  
Getgood, John  
Gilbert, Robert  
Glauner, John  
Gloege, Douglas  
Gordon, Ralph  
Gordon, Dave  
Gorospe, R. Raymond  
Gourm, Dennis  
Graber, John  
Grayson, Kenneth  
Green, Floyd  
Greenslit, Raymond  
Griffiths, James  
Grundy, Farl  
Gulley, Gerald  
Hack, Charles  
Halstead, Babe  
Hanna, James  
Harcum, Weldon  
Harrison, Allen  
Hatch, Knolen  
Hawley, Robert  
Henry, Freddy  
Henshaw, Russell  
Herb, John  
Herlihy, Matthew  
Hewitt, Jay  
Hice, David  
Higgins, Steven  
Hines, Donald  
Hinnagan, Francis  
Hippis, William  
Hoelker, Ewald  
Holsbeke, Leon  
Hoolehan, Kevin

Hooton, Berke  
Houchins, William  
Hryadil, Nicholas  
Hudak, Jane  
Hughes, Henry  
Hund, Richard  
Hunt, Charles  
Hunt, Francis  
Hyatt, Russell  
Ingram, Glendon  
Ishley, Gary  
iTT, Cousin  
Iverson, James  
Janke, Roger  
Jankel, Ken  
Jeranek, Richard  
Johnson, Gene  
Johnson, Gary  
Johnson, Donald  
Jolly, John  
Jones, Ruben  
Jordan, Phil  
Kallina, Gerald  
Kathman, Michael  
Kauppi, Ernest  
Keller, Steven  
Kelliher, Paul  
Kenyon, Richard  
Kern, Donald  
Kern, Paul  
Kerns, Timothy  
Kerrick, Johnathan  
Kerrins, William  
Keys, William  
King, George  
King, Geoffrey  
Kirchoff, Thomas  
Kirk, Walter  
Kirkpatrick, Wayne  
Klein, Earl  
Knowlton, William  
Kohler, J.R.  
Krieg, Steven  
Krimm, Francis  
Krinock, Gregory  
Krkovich, Reginald  
Kuchta, James  
In Memory of, Darwin Labahn KIA 6/13/69  
Kunego, Donald  
Labrecque, Simon

|                    |                     |                      |                     |                     |                      |
|--------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Lamb, James        | Nelson, John        | Schmitt, Thomas      | Watkins, Michael    | Brich, Jimmy        | Foley, Paul          |
| Lamgo, Floyd       | Nelson, Lee         | Scholz, C.E.         | Watts, Wayne        | Brown, Edward       | Fortman, Ed          |
| Landt, George      | Newman, Roger       | Schunck, James       | Weachter, Dennis    | Brundage, Ron       | Frank, Dale          |
| LeBall, Wayne      | Newman, Gary        | Scott, Charles       | Webb, Mark          | Burr, Charles       | Franz, Howard        |
| Lebrun, Raynald    | Nicklas, Harold     | Scott, Alexander     | West, David         | Caldwell, Ronald    | Fremd, Harold        |
| Lees, Frances      | Norris, Danny       | Sellars, Marvin      | West, Ralph         | Campbell, Craig     | Fusco, Joseph        |
| Leesmann, Dale     | Norsian, Arsen      | Selvidge, Mark       | Wetmore, Joseph     | Canuel, Richard     | Gadberry, Blaine     |
| Lenger, Norman     | O'Neill, Timothy    | Semmelmeyer, Peter   | Wheeler, Richard    | Carnal, James       | Gaines, James        |
| Lewis, James       | Orzo, Joe           | Sevelius, Arthur     | Wheelock, Thomas    | Carraturo, Anthony  | Gann, Gary           |
| Locklear, Gerald   | Ostrander, Gary     | Sharpe, Larry        | Whitson, Thomas     | Carrier, Arlie      | Garloch, Dale        |
| Longhouser, John   | Ottesen, Sven       | Shumaker, Barry      | Wickstrom, Eric     | Carroll, Patrick    | Garrott, Robert      |
| Loveday, Gary      | Patch, Dwight       | Sieja, Ronald        | Wieland, David      | Cavinder, Larry     | Gehring, Joseph      |
| Ludwig, Carroll    | Patton, George      | Simmons, Phillip     | Williams, Ray       | Chase, Randy        | Gilbert, Howard      |
| Lumpp, Edward      | Peacock, Walter     | Sink, Woodrow        | Williams, Tyrus     | Chavez, Larry       | Gill, Charles        |
| Lyle, Ross         | Pehr, Bert          | Skinn, Richard       | Williams, Keith     | Chesmore, James     | Gochenour, Samuel    |
| Lyle, Ross         | Perrin, Craig       | Skinner, Michael     | Willis, Janelle     | Childress, Warren   | Goode, David         |
| Macheta, Michael   | Phetteplace, Duane  | Sloan, Tommy         | Wolfe, Okey         | Cirjak, John        | Goodwater, Howard    |
| MacKenzie, Thomas  | Pierce, Leo         | Slomienki, Walter    | Wolfe, Fredrick     | Clack, Douglas      | Gray, John           |
| Maloy, Joel        | Pimental, Frederick | Smit, Arthur         | Wood, Eddie         | Claiborne, Ron      | Greek, Charles       |
| Manincor, William  | Pollard, Albert     | Smith, Larry         | Workman, Paul       | Clark, Floyd        | Grogg, John          |
| Marion, George     | Porter, Don         | Smith, Mark          | Worley, Dennis      | Cobb, Richard       | Guenthardt, Gerald   |
| Marks, Gary        | Porter, James       | Smith, Robert        | Wright, George      | Cofty, Larry        | Guerena, Jesse       |
| Marotta, Robert    | Price, Erick        | Smith, William K.    | Wright, Robert      | Collier, Kermit     | Guy, Joseph          |
| Mashburn, Lewis    | Pryor, Lee          | Sotak, Arthur        | Wulf, John          | Colson, Darrel      | Harvey, Michael      |
| Mason, Clinton     | Pytlak, George      | Soule, Robert        | Yeager, Michael     | Comer, Joseph       | Hathaway, Allen      |
| Mason, Gregory     | Quinones, Eladio    | Spivey, Charles      | Yopp, Nixon         | Commons, Joe        | Haugen, Terry        |
| Mays, Curtis       | Radzwillas, Arminda | Stafford, Edmund     | Young, James        | Confer, Richard     | Hawkinson, Erik      |
| McCarthy, John     | Rafferty, Michael   | Steege, Greg         |                     | Connolly, David     | Headrick, Joseph     |
| McGavran, Stephen  | Randolph, James     | Steiner, Robert      | <b>Silver Level</b> | Conwell, Raymond    | Hein, Dwane          |
| McGee, Thomas      | Rankin, William     | Stensgaard, Paul     | Apholz, William     | Corbin, Charles     | Helm, Thomas         |
| McGill, James      | Rasmussen, Ralph    | Stephens, Phillip    | Aguilar, Arthur     | Crabill, Steven     | Hennings, Verle      |
| McGrail, John      | Rawlings, Jack      | Stivers, Terry       | Aldrich, Hugo       | Cramer, G. William  | Herman, Paul         |
| McGrail, Edmond    | Rawlinko, John      | Strycker, William    | Alsobrook, William  | Crouthamel, Roger   | Hertel, Herbert      |
| McGrath, Thomas    | Rawson, Robert      | Sturey, William      | Andrews, Jerry      | Crowe, Jody         | Hicks, L.R.          |
| McLendon, Glenn    | Rector, David       | Sucato, Richard      | Arana, Fredric      | Cunningham, James   | Hidden, Andrew       |
| McNeil, Robert     | Reed, Jackson       | Sullivan, Clara      | Arble, Patrick      | Curti, Benjamin     | Hillman, Larry       |
| Meadows, Denver    | Reid, Eric          | Swan, Val            | Arce, Carlos        | Czaplewski, Randal  | Hinkle, Weldon       |
| Merin, Donald      | Reilly, Jon         | Swiger, Rocky        | Argento, Chuck      | Davidson, Donald    | Hobbie, William      |
| Mesa, Ralph        | Rice, Danny         | Taylor, David        | Argo, James         | Davis, James        | Hodges, John         |
| Meyer, William     | Richeson, George    | Terry, Hardy         | Austin, Julius      | De Witt, Richard    | Hoke, Kenneth        |
| Miller, Steve      | Riggsby, Oakley     | Thomas, Richard      | Bachler, David      | Deegee, Leonard     | Hollins, Mantora     |
| Miller, Carl       | Ritter, James       | Todd, Jon            | Baker, Marvin       | Derepkowski, Arthur | Holloway, Larry      |
| Miner, Donald      | Robinson, Charles   | Tomchick, James      | Baker, Robert       | Dickensheet, Joseph | Holmes, Eric         |
| Minter, Mark       | Robinson, Arlise    | Tonkovich, Dennis    | Ballantyne, John    | Dimeo, John         | Howard, Henry        |
| Miller, Marsha     | Rose, Danny         | Tracy, Stephen       | Bangs, David        | Dodson, Kenneth     | Hrom, John           |
| In Memory of Louis | In Memory of        | Trammell, Horace     | Barnes, Charles     | Donnelly, Edward    | Janairo, Antonio     |
| Miller             | Rodney J.T. Yano    | Trosper, Eddie       | Baronti, William    | Doxtator, Everett   | Johnston, LeRoy      |
| Mitchell, Jerry    | Ross, Raymond       | Trubeck, William     | Barton, Ronald      | Duckwall, John      | Jordan, John         |
| Monson, Lyle       | Rubas, Ronald       | Tuckman, Michael     | Beard, C. Frederick | Duke, Billy         | Journey, John        |
| Montgomery, W.F.   | Runion, Jack        | Tyre, Jessie         | Beck, John          | Duncan, Thomas      | Kalick, Larry        |
| Moore, Earl        | Russell, W. Arthur  | Vail, Richard        | Bellotty, Jim       | Duplantis, Blair    | Karabinos, Blandin   |
| Morey, William     | Rusteberg, Homer    | Vanderbogart, Kirk   | Benitez, Joachim    | Durr, Merritt       | Kennedy, Markie      |
| Morgan, Danny      | Ryan, Nicholas      | Varljen, Frank       | Blackman, Clarence  | Dussault, Raymond   | Kirkpatrick, Michael |
| Mori, Alfred       | Rybacki, Henry      | Vicario, Raymond     | Bland, James        | Eads, Hugh          | Kittelson, Harold    |
| Morris, Clifton    | Ryburn, Glenn       | Volta, Donald        | Blank, Harvey       | Eaton, Noyd         | Klopfner, Ronald     |
| Morris, Glenn      | Saft, Paul          | Wadopian, Mark       | Blawat, James       | Ehrets, Steven      | Koch, Anthony        |
| Morrison, Jack     | Sams, Billy         | Walker, Dan          | Blose, Michael      | Elsing, Glenn       | Kotek, Richard       |
| Morrissey, Mathew  | Sanchez, Vincent    | Walter, Peter        | Boesz, Arthur       | Fiscor, John        | Kowalski, James      |
| Murdock, Monte     | Sartor, Billy       | Walters, Jack        | Bostelman, Doug     | Fish, E.G.          | Krcelich, George     |
| Murphy, Kenneth    | Scali, Salvatore    | Washington, Benjamin | Braendel, Douglas   | Fisher, Richard     | Krebs, Richard       |
| Mutch, Scott       | Schmidt, Dennis     | Watkins, Charles     | Brewer, James       | Flaig, James        | Laidlaw, Scott       |

Lanier, Melvin  
 Lantrip, Gary  
 Larson, Ralph  
 Lawrence, George  
 Leonti, John  
 Lestock, John  
 Linberg, Robert  
 Lindblad, Peter  
 Lingle, Soapy  
 Little, Steven  
 Livingston, Donald  
 Long, Jesse  
 Long, John  
 Lopez, Joseph  
 Lopez, Jeffrey  
 Lundahl, Richard  
 Lynch, Michael  
 MacDonald, Clifford  
 MacGregor, Gary  
 Mahler, Paul  
 Majewski, Raymond  
 Malnarick, Bernard  
 Malone, Walker  
 Mann, Harold  
 Manthei, Sheldon  
 Marino, Peter  
 Marshall, Troy  
 Martens, Ricki  
 Maurer, Benedict  
 Mayer, Jeffrey  
 McAfee, Clifford  
 McGarrity, Thomas  
 McIntosh, James  
 McMasters, Cary  
 McSwiggan, Joseph  
 Meier, Michael  
 Melo, Emma  
 Mendoza, David  
 Missey, Theodore  
 Mitchell, William  
 Mix, Lawrence  
 Moodie, Dennis  
 Moody, A.R.  
 Murphy, Smokey  
 Neighbors, Andrew  
 Newcomb, Dale  
 Nute, Charles  
 Olechny, Patrick  
 Omori, Ronald  
 O'Neal, Robert  
 O'Neil, Richard  
 Oracz, Robert  
 Orridge, Richard  
 Owens, William  
 Pace, D.L.  
 Parker, Joel  
 Parkhurst, Michael  
 Parks, John  
 Patten, Thomas  
 Payne, Andrea

Pearson, J. Richmond  
 Peckham, John  
 Petrusko, Donald  
 Philipp, Edward  
 Phillips, Frank  
 Plisch, Clifton  
 Puckett, Larry  
 Rabon, Jimmy  
 Ragel, John  
 Ramsey, Steven  
 Rapp, Dennis  
 Reichgeld, Blake  
 Renda, Frank  
 Reynolds, Michael  
 Richmond, David  
 Rinne, Howard  
 Robbins, Donald  
 Roberts, Larry  
 Rogen, John  
 Ronka, Glenn  
 Rosendahl, Myron  
 Roth, Steven  
 Russell, David  
 Sakole, Michael  
 Sallenbach, Murray  
 Sayers, Kenneth  
 Schaefer, Michael  
 Schiller, Nelson  
 Schoonmaker, Tracey  
 Scott, Gary  
 Scott, Juanita  
 Scott, Charles  
 Scott, Larry  
 Seese, Harry  
 Selch, William  
 Shake, Donald  
 Shakow, Raymond  
 Sheetz, F.A.  
 Sheldon, Dennis  
 Sigler, Thomas  
 Simmons, Michael  
 Smith, Thomas  
 Snow, Tony  
 Spitze, Jim  
 Staffieri, Eustacchio  
 Stines, Harold  
 Stogner, H.G.  
 Stringer, Stephen  
 Sugihara, Martyn  
 Suhre, William  
 Swanson, James  
 Tarr, Raymond  
 Templer, Thomas  
 Thestrup, Roger  
 Thompson, John  
 Trentman, Harry  
 Van Burger, Bill  
 Vargas, Luis  
 Venhoff, John  
 Vied, Charles

Villarreal, Emilio  
 Virusky, Edmund  
 Voss, Jeffrey  
 Voss, Alvin  
 Wagg, Robert  
 Walker, Ronnie  
 Wallech, Joseph  
 Watters, David  
 Weaver, William  
 Weaver, Joyce  
 Weeks, Keith  
 Weis, Jeffrey  
 Weltzien, James  
 West, Wayne  
 West, George  
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 Bodenus, George  
 Bodo, Randy  
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 Bright, Gerald  
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## Calendar Donations Highlight our 1st quarter 2022

By *Ollie Pickral, Treasurer*

**This year's calendar contributions are getting close to 2021 totals.**

With the delivery of our annual calendar to our members right around February 1st, our scholarship funds shot up quickly once the calendar envelopes started arriving to my mailbox. For both February and March, contributions of \$87,000 have been received. Fifteen hundred and fifty-five (1,555) of you have donated thus far so I think last year's totals of over 1,800 and \$98,000

will be surpassed. Think \$100,000 and 2,000+ donors!!

If you haven't sent in the calendar envelope with your donation, please do. If you would like to contribute again, please do. Helping our Blackhorse family is our first duty and helping with education is at the top of our priority list. Also, any and all donations to 11 ACVVC are tax deductible, no matter how large or small your contribution is. Scholarships that we award help our grandchildren further their education

and are much appreciated by those that receive them.

Contributions to our other accounts are doing well. Another 20 donors have designated donations to our Scholarship, Memorial, General and Reunion Assistance funds of over \$6,000 this quarter.

Mail your check payable to: 11 ACVVC or provide credit card info to:

*Ollie Pickral  
571 Ditchley Road  
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# Blackhorse Hoofbeats

Echoes from the Regiment's Service in Vietnam 1966-1972

*(Editor's note: This story originally appeared in 2017. It is being reprinted by popular demand.)*

**Don Snedeker, 11th ACVVC Historian**

## Operations Allons – Crossing the Dong Nai River, April 1968

In April 1968, a Viet Cong colonel defected and during interrogation he revealed the enemy's plans for the so-called Mini- or Second Tet that was scheduled to kick off with an attack on the Long Binh-Bien Hoa-Saigon area. The VC had already moved through the area along the so-called 'Phantom Highway' and were in their forward assembly areas south of the Dong Nai River. It was time to call in the Cavalry.

The change in orders to Blackhorse 6 on 20 April was succinct: "Intelligence indicates a probable VC attack in the Bien Hoa-Saigon area on 27 April. 11th ACR operations vicinity Bunard are terminated." Colonel Gorder was directed to move two squadrons (First and Second) south as quickly as possible (3/11 was already near Saigon). The 300 meter-wide (984 feet) Dong Nai River stood in the way. There were no bridges anywhere in the zone allocated to the Regiment, so crossing would mean getting help.

The same message that directed the Regiment to head towards Bien Hoa and Long Binh also told the commander of the 20th Engineer Brigade to provide the needed support. The brigade commander originally suggested using motorized rafts to ferry the 200 wheeled and tracked vehicles across the river. Blackhorse 6 didn't like that idea; he estimated that rafting would take a long time. Colonel Gorder knew that the expected enemy attack meant he couldn't afford two-plus days just to cross the obstacle. He also didn't want to depend on boats that might break down in the middle of the river, so he decided that a pontoon bridge was the right answer. All he had to do was persuade the engineers. As it turned out, the 38th Colonel of the Regiment was a very persuasive man.

While the two squadrons headed south, Blackhorse 6 flew to the Dong Nai in search of an acceptable crossing site. He found one at a big bend in the river. The only real issue was the width of the river at this location. Whether Gorder needed to have his eyeballs recalibrated, or he recognized that his recommendation would not be approved if his estimate was too high, he reported the distance at "only 500 feet".

Since the 20th Engineer Brigade could bridge a gap of 500 feet and still have bridging left over for contingencies, Gorder's recommendation was approved. It wasn't until mid-way through the second day of the actual bridging operation that the engineers realized the 500-foot estimate was short. Way short! On the first day, two engineers used triangulation to arrive at a distance of between 650 and 675 feet. However, the D Company, 168th Engineers, commander realized that even these estimates were off. He had a rope taken across the river. The answer came back: 920 feet. He already had most of the bridging available in the region. What he needed to complete the project would empty the motor pools of all that remained. Nonetheless, his request for the additional bridging was fulfilled, and the pontoon bridge was completed by 1600 hours on 24

April – just 55 hours after the first engineers arrived on site.

The first Blackhorse vehicle crossed the Dong Nai around daylight on 25 April. To keep inside the weight and safety restrictions, Armored Cavalry Assault Vehicles (ACAV) crossed at 50-foot intervals, while tanks required ground guides and 150 foot-spacing. Several deadlined vehicles were towed across with caution, while the heavy Armored Vehicle Launched Bridges (AVLB) crossed one at a time. Drivers maintained a strict 5 MPH speed, lest they end up in the river. Some of the Blackhorse Troopers were heard to thank the engineers as they crossed the bridge. As one engineer said: "The actual crossing went so smooth it was almost anti-climatic."

Six hours after starting, almost 200 vehicles had crossed the Dong Nai. A company from the 1/18th Infantry Battalion (Vanguards) guarded the northern bank, while 2/11's Golf Troop (cross-attached with a platoon of Hotel Company tanks) and two 1/18th Infantry companies protected the southern bank as the bridge was taken apart and loaded back onto the engineer's trucks.

Around midnight that night, elements of the 274th Regiment attacked the southern side of the river crossing site – well after the last vehicle had crossed the bridge. Over 100 rounds of 82mm mortar landed in and around the double-strand concertina perimeter guarded by Blackhorse Troopers, Vanguard Grunts, and the engineers. About 50 rocket-propelled grenades (RPGs) were launched from outside the perimeter, as enemy soldiers tried – unsuccessfully – to get inside the ring of armored vehicles. Two Troopers were killed (Specialist 4th Class George Bennett, Hotel Company, and SP4 Steven Heffner, Golf Troop) during the two-hour contact and almost 30 GIs – mostly engineers – were wounded. A large number of engineer vehicles and bridging equipment was destroyed or damaged.

There were many acts of bravery witnessed by the defenders on the banks of the Dong Nai that night, but most people remember Platoon Sergeant Rayburn Bell walking around inside the perimeter with nothing on but his jungle boots, helmet, and M14 rifle. Bell, assigned to the 100th Float Bridge Company, had just gotten horizontal on his cot when the first mortar rounds hit. In his haste to get into a bunker, he left his clothes behind. After the initial salvo of incoming mortars, Bell retrieved his boots and helmet, but could not find his jungle fatigues in the dark. Discretion did not stand in the way of valor of this 15-year Army veteran as he rallied his engineers to reinforce the perimeter at several critical points.

The following day, the Grunts of 1/18th Infantry, accompanied by Golf Troop ACAVs, patrolled along the river bank and uncovered some freshly-dug bunkers. To their surprise, they also found traces of where an enemy battalion had crossed the Dong Nai headed south. Was the attack on the bridge site just a diversion to cover up the enemy's own river crossing?

Most importantly, the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment arrived in plenty of time to defend Bien Hoa, Long Binh, and Blackhorse Base Camp against the combined might of three reinforced VC regiments. The attack came on the night of 4-5 May 1968 and was soundly defeated.

# Blackhorse Hoofbeats

Echoes from the Regiment's Service in Vietnam 1966-1972

Don Snedeker, 11th ACVVC Historian

Fire Support Bases Pace & Katum, September – October 1971: As they did so often during the war, the North Vietnamese chose a significant date on the calendar to initiate a major offensive. In this case, it was the South Vietnamese presidential election scheduled for Sunday, 3 October 1971. Although there was only one name on the ballot, Hanoi couldn't pass up the opportunity to try and embarrass the Saigon government. They wanted to throw out the last remaining South Vietnamese troops from Cambodia prior to the election or at least capture a major town inside South Vietnam.

For his part, South Vietnamese President Thieu understood that, in order for his reelection to have any legitimacy, the Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) would have to demonstrate the ability to stand on its own. To President Nixon, success on this battlefield would validate the Vietnamization plan and allow the continued withdrawal of all US forces from Southeast Asia. To the Troopers of 2nd Squadron and Air Cavalry Troop, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, it was another opportunity to prove they had earned the right to wear the Blackhorse combat patch.

The mission to relieve the artillery at the former Special Forces camp at FSB (Fire Support Base) Katum (less than 10 clicks from Cambodia in northern Tay Ninh Province) and escort Bravo Battery, 2nd Battalion, 32nd Artillery ('Proud Americans') was a key part of the operation, which involved multiple divisions on both sides. The village of Katum sits astride Highway 4, and elements of two North Vietnamese (NVA) divisions, reinforced with sappers, artillery, and anti-aircraft machine guns, were attacking southwards from Cambodia, guiding on this highway as they advanced. There were numerous reports of NVA tanks being sighted around Snuol and along Highway 7 near Memot. A number of Troopers were still around from the Cambodia operation just over a year earlier, and they well remembered how easily tanks could move north – or south – along the Highway 7 – Highway 4 network.

The South Vietnamese forces were receiving artillery support from the 175mm and 8-inch guns of the 2nd Battalion, 32nd Artillery located at FSB Katum on Highway 4 and nearby FSB Pace. But the North Vietnamese attackers were coming too close to both of these forward bases. The American artillery commander reported his units "were under constant mortar and rocket attacks from 26 September on". Ammunition expenditures for the battalion's 350 separate fire missions in September were in excess of 3,000 rounds and over 4,600 in October – an almost unheard-of amount at this point in the war. The NVA responded in kind, pounding FSBs Pace and Katum with over 2,300 rounds – usually about 100 incoming rounds a day.

The U.S. command in Saigon determined it was time to pull the long-range cannons out before they were overrun. Battle Squadron was given the mission of getting Bravo Battery out of FSB Katum before the enemy could surround them. A company of the 1st Battalion, 12th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division was helicoptered into FSB Pace to help defend it against an expected enemy assault.

The cannoners of the Proud Americans had been supporting the

Blackhorse Regiment virtually since they came ashore in 1966 – Cedar Falls, Junction City, War Zone C, Fire Support Bases Fort Defiance, Illingworth, Kramer, Burkett, and Cambodia. Now, it was time for the Blackhorse Troopers to pay back the 32nd Artillery for all the times those huge shells had caused the enemy to keep their heads inside the bunkers as the ACAVs and tanks and Sheridans advanced.

On September 26th, the day the NVA began their offensive, over one thousand mortar rounds and rockets rained down on FSBs Pace and Katum. There was a sapper and infantry attack on South Vietnamese armored cavalry and ranger forces defending the rubber plantation town of Krek, inside Cambodia. Battlefield reports indicated that Highway 4 had been cut by the North Vietnamese who were pouring south out of Cambodia. Intelligence reports indicated a large number of enemy troops had already slipped south of Katum in the direction of Tay Ninh City, and B52s – guided by radar and flying through heavy monsoon clouds – struck them on 27 and 28 September. Almost 300 tons of bombs were dropped in this area.

It was onto this wet battlefield that the 2/11 Troopers moved – with Air Cav Troop Cobras and Loaches flying cover. They established a forward assembly area near the old French Fort outside of Tay Ninh on 29 September. Whether Highway 4 was cut by the enemy between the old French Fort and Katum was unclear. What was clear was that Katum was receiving as many as 100 rounds a day of mixed mortars and rockets and that enemy ground forces had been seen in virtually every direction. The arrival of PT-76 and T-54 tanks was a real possibility at any moment. It was obvious that this was a serious situation and time was of the essence. One newspaper wrote that 2nd Squadron's move from Cu Chi to Katum was a "hurry-up drive" on wet, muddy roads. The weather was acting as the enemy's ally. Heavy rain and thick clouds – caused by Typhoons Della and Elaine off the Vietnamese coast – hindered close air support and aerial reconnaissance.

The rescue mission – like the larger operation to deny the North Vietnamese their propaganda and military victories – was an unqualified success. Other than some damage caused by mines and a small number of wounded requiring evacuation, 2/11 and Air Cav Troop accomplished the mission by delivering Bravo Battery to the more defensible environs of Tay Ninh City.

The Chicago Tribune wrote that the South Vietnamese had "trapped and routed [the enemy] in the worst defeat suffered by the North Vietnamese this year." South Vietnamese military commanders showed excellent combat leadership, as well as operational and logistical planning and execution across the board. Junior leaders held their units together during repeated attacks and constant shelling, while senior leaders maneuvered forces in ways that took the enemy by surprise.

Battle 6 – Lieutenant Colonel Bill Stokes – communicated his pride to the Blackhorse Troopers.

"I was very pleased with the professional way in which the squadron rescued the 2-32nd Artillery elements at Katum ... [T]he

exercise ... show[ed] quite clearly our capability to react rapidly and successfully to an important contingency task, while continuing to maintain a major fire base in the Boi Loi Woods ... The entire squadron was responsible for the success of our operation, not just the

field elements. A real pat on the back is due the individual trooper throughout the squadron; it was his performance that carried the day. Make sure that your men are made aware of the high-level praise they have earned."



## Blackhorse Women's News

By Sheryl Myers, Women's Group Co-coordinator

Dear Ladies and Supporters of the Blackhorse Women's Group,

Hello Spring !! We hope to see you all at the 2022 11th ACVVC Reunion in Birmingham, AL. Please refer to *Thunder Run* for information on registering, etc. or go to the 11th ACVVC website, [www.11thcavnam.com](http://www.11thcavnam.com)

The Blackhorse Women's Group meets on Saturday morning of Reunion Week. Spouses and/or family members are welcome to attend while our Troopers are attending their Annual Business Meeting.

At the request of many from our group, we have invited a VA Service Officer to our meeting to speak on how the VA serves our veterans and their families. Charles Bosko, a VSO, and member of 11th ACVVC will be our speaker. There will be a Question & Answer segment also, so bring along all your questions to this valuable meeting.

Sadly, we were notified recently of the passing of two of our Blackhorse Ladies :

Leslie Carter, Trooper - Stanley Carter, A Trp, 1/11 and Emily Bocanegra, Trooper Joel Bocanegra, E Trp 2/11. The Blackhorse Womens Group will enter their names into our "Sarah's Angels" Book of Remembrance and will send a Prayer Lap

Shawl to her Trooper or family member. Please notify Sheryl Myers, of the passing of a Blackhorse Lady and include her name, date of passing, her Trooper's name and unit and his or a family member's address.

Our Blackhorse Tote Bags are still available. Your purchase will benefit the 11th ACVVC Scholarship Fund and the projects

of the Blackhorse Women's Group. Order by mail, or purchase at our Fundraising Table at the Reunion.

We are looking forward to visiting with you in Birmingham.

*Sheryl, Lajaunda, Marguerite, Kathy, Cathi, Cherry, and Jan*

**Blackhorse Women's Group Offers Tote Bags For Sale!**



**Blackhorse Women's Group Fundraiser!!**

These two-colored black and red heavy duty totes are offered for \$10 each plus shipping.\*

All proceeds raised benefit the women's group Prayer Shawl and Wreaths Across America projects and our group donation to the 11th ACCV Scholarship Fund.

Please complete the order form below and mail with payment to:  
**Marguerite Austin 34578 Kimble Shores Dr. Pequot Lakes, MN 56472**



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Number of bags \_\_\_\_\_ X \$10 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Shipping\* \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*Shipping: \$7.50 for 1-3 bags; \$15 for 4 or more bags.

**Thank you for supporting the Blackhorse Women's Group!**

## Show Your Pride

Curt Lambert (CW2, Air Cav Troop, 1970-71) of Moreno Valley, California shows his Blackhorse Pride with a his custom made guitar; Blackhorse inlay on the body, custom waterslide Blackhorse decal on the headstock, along with an Allons pin as a truss rod cover.





## Fiddler's Green

We are sorry to report the following Troopers have taken the journey to Fiddler's Green. We send our heartfelt sympathy and sincere condolences to their families and friends. We honor their service to our country and to our regiment by posting their names.

Over 500 U.S. newspapers are checked daily for the keywords "11th Cavalry" or "11th Armored Cavalry". Information is then posted on our website to allow us to post notices. Please check the "Funeral Honor Guard check daily" at [www.11thcavnam.com](http://www.11thcavnam.com)

**James H. Aarestad**, HHT, 2/11 (1969-1969) passed away on January 13, 2022. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Carlisle, PA. He will be laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA. Jim is a veteran of World War II and Korea War.

**Charles H. Ashworth**, HHT, 3/11 (1969-1970) passed away on March 26, 2022. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Rochester, NY.

**Harry J. Bartosik**, D Company, 1/11 (1966-1967) passed away on February 27, 2022. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Fairfax Station, VA. He was laid to rest in Gulf Cemetery, Santa Rosa Beach, FL.

**Jerome R. Beigh**, Howitzer Battery, 2/11 (1966-1967) passed away on January 29, 2022. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Bridgewater, NY. He was laid to rest in Fairview Cemetery, Bridgewater, NY.

**Howard R. Berry**, C Troop, 1/11 (1968-1969) passed away on February 6, 2022. He was a member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Lake Forest Park, WA.

**Donald R. Blue**, F Troop, 2/11 (1967-1968) passed away on February 18, 2022. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Laguna Park, TX. He was laid to rest in Dallas-Ft. Worth National Cemetery, Dallas, TX.

**James T. Bradley**, K Troop, 3/11 (1969-1970) passed away on September 17, 2021. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Marion, NC.

**William E. Carr**, F Troop, 2/11 (1969-1970) passed away on June 2, 2021. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Burlington, IA. He was laid to rest in Aspen Grove Cemetery, Burlington, VA.

**John L. Choate**, HHT 11th ACR (1970-1970) passed away on June 28, 2013. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Decatur, GA.

**Jerry L. Cloyd**, 9th Signal Detachment (1967-1968) passed away on February 20, 2022. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Kokomo, IN.

**Phillip B. Coolidge**, F Troop, 2/11 (1967-1968) passed away on August 28, 2000. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Elizabethtown, KY. He was laid to rest in Abethtown Memorial Gardens, Ceilia, KY.

**Erasmus T. Estringel**, HHT 11th ACR (1968-1969) passed away on October 10, 2021. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Taft, TX. He was laid to rest in Palms Memorial Gardens, Portland, TX.

**Steven E. Faber**, K Troop, 3/11 (1969-1970) passed away on January 5, 2022. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Mount Pleasant, MI. He was laid to rest in Dallas - Ft. Worth National Cemetery, Dallas, TX.

**Chester K. Fenner**, HHT, 3/11 (1967-1968) passed away on March 7, 2022. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Lebanon, OR.

**Roger D. Ferguson**, K Troop, 3/11 (1967-1968) passed away on May 27, 2021. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Marion, IN. He was laid to rest in Marion National Cemetery, Marion, IN.

**Robert E. Gosa**, 595th Engineer Company (1967-1968) passed away on April 3, 2021. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Calhoun City, MS. He was laid to rest in Chapel Hill Cemetery, Big Creek, MS. Robert is a veteran of the Korean War.

**Robert L. Harris**, K Troop, 3/11 (1969-1969) passed away on November 28, 2021. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Greensboro, NC.

**Alfred L. Heck**, HHT, 1/11 (1964-1967) passed away on October 17, 2021. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Worthington, WV.

**Douglas W. Hoover**, HHT, 2/11 (1967-1969) passed away on January 8, 2022. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Lufkin, TX.

**George A. Hughes**, HHT, 2/11 (1967-1968) passed away on November 26, 2021. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Lawton, OK. He was laid to rest in Ft. Sill National Cemetery, Elgin, OK. George is a veteran of the Korean War.

**Donald W. Johnson**, HHT, 2/11 (1968-1969) passed away on March 23, 2022. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Tomball, TX. He was laid to rest in Klein Memorial Park, Tomball, TX.

**Thomas G. Kent**, Air Cavalry Troop (1966-1967) passed away on June 8, 2014. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Las Vegas, NV. He was laid to rest in Southern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery, Boulder City, NV.

**William A. King**, L Troop, 3/11 (1969-1970) passed away on December 14, 2021. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Lisbon, ME. Bill was a veteran of the Korean War.

**Peter Korbal**, A Troop, 1/11 (1969-1970) passed away on March 7, 2022. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Mio, MI. He was laid to rest in Great Lakes National Cemetery, Holly, MI.

**George A. Lacy**, H Company, 2/11 (1970-1971) passed away on January 12, 2022. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Spiceland, IN. He was laid to rest in Circle Grove Cemetery, Spiceland, IN.

**Gerald D. Langloss**, H Company, 2/11 (1970-1971) passed away on December 7, 2017. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Pleasanton, TX. He was laid to rest in Mound City National Cemetery - IL, Mound City, IL. Gerald is a veteran of the Korean War.

**Donald G. Lepper**, Howitzer Battery 2/11 (1969-1970) passed away on November 16, 2021. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Danbury, NE. He will be laid to rest in Fort McPherson National Cemetery in Maxwell, NE, at a later date.

**Eddie R. Lewis**, K Troop, 3/11 (1969-1970) passed away on June 12, 2015. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Fort Worth, TX. He was laid to rest in Dallas - Ft. Worth National Cemetery, Dallas, TX.

**Frank W. Livolsi**, A Troop, 1/11 (1966-1967) passed away on February 27, 2022. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Stamford, CT.

**Steven W. Macpherson**, K Troop, 3/11 (1970-1971) passed away on August 26, 2021. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in El Paso, TX. He was laid to rest in Ft. Bliss National Cemetery, Fort Bliss, TX.

**Paul F. Miller**, I Troop, 3/11 (1969-1970) passed away on February 16, 2022. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Norway, IA. He was laid to rest in Saint Michael's Cemetery, Norway, IA.

**Stanley A. Miller**, C Troop, 1/11 (1970-1971) passed away on July 5, 2021. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Marion, WI. He was laid to rest in Big Falls Cemetery, Big Falls, WI.

**Daniel T. Moeller**, 27th Engineer Battalion (1967-1968) passed away on February 27, 2022. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Sturgeon Bay, WI. He was laid to rest in Saint Peter And Paul Cemetery, Institute, WI.

**Charles E. Myers**, Howitzer Battery, 1/11 (1968-1969) passed away on February 21, 2022. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Elbert, CO. He was laid to rest in Pikes Peak National Cemetery, Colorado Springs, CO.

**Leroy Neyland**, H Company, 2/11 (1966-1967) passed away on January 10, 2021. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Louisville, KY. He was laid to rest in North Hardin Memorial Gardens, Radcliff, KY.

**William E. Payne**, 919th Engineer Company (1969-1970) passed away on February 6, 2022. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Venice, FL. He was laid to rest in Sarasota National Cemetery, Sarasota, FL.

**William S. Phillips**, Air Cavalry Troop (1967-1968) passed away on December 4, 2021. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Verona, PA. He was laid to rest in Sylvania Hills Memorial Park, Rochester, PA.

**Richard C. Quinn**, H Company, 2/11 (1966-1967) passed away on January 19, 2022. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Newtown, PA. He was laid to rest in Washington Crossing National Cemetery, Philadelphia, PA.

**Walter J. Rhoda**, D Company, 1/11 (1967-1968) passed away on January 2, 2021. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Milton, FL. He was laid to rest in Missouri Veterans Cemetery / Springfield, Springfield, MO.

**Thomas E. Rosini**, B Troop, 1/11 (1970-1971) passed away on February 20, 2022. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Coal Township, PA. He was laid to rest in All Saints Cemetery, Elysburg, PA.

**William E. Rushing**, HHT, 1/11 (1970-1971) passed away on October 12, 2012. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Las Vegas, NV. He was laid to rest in Houston National Cemetery, Houston, TX.

**Michael W. Russell**, HHT, 3/11 (1967-1968) passed away on March 25, 2022. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Baton Rouge, LA.

**John B. Smith**, Howitzer Battery, 1/11 (1967-1968) passed away on September 12, 2021. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Ravenden, AR. He was laid to rest in Lone Oak Cemetery, Lewisburg, TN.

**James B. Schaffer**, Air Cavalry Troop (1969-1970) passed away on March 21, 2022. He was a member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Apopka, FL.

**Lawrence D. Smith**, HHT, 1/11 (1966-1967) passed away on April 30, 2015. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Holland, MI. He was laid to rest in Zeeland Cemetery, Otttawa County, MI. Larry is a veteran of the Korean War.

**William E. Thill**, HHT, 2/11 (1968-1969) passed away on 12/00/2021. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Kingman, AZ.

**Maynard J. Traversie**, G Troop, 2/11 (1971-1972) passed away on January 24, 2022. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Summerset, SD. He was laid to rest in Black Hills National Cemetery, Sturgis, SD.

**William T. Wagner**, HHT, 3/11 (1966-1967) passed away on March 24, 2022. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Streamwood, IL.

**James B. Wallace**, HHT, 2/11 (1971-1972) passed away on December 3, 2021. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Sun City, AZ. He was laid to rest in Oak Ridge Cemetery, Buchanan, MI.

**Leonard V. Wood**, HHT, 2/11 (1971-1972) passed away on February 28, 2022. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Sebring, FL.

**Eugene Zajac**, Howitzer Battery, 1/11 (1966-1967) passed away on January 15, 2021. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Circleville, OH.

**David A. Zingmark**, F Troop, 2/11 (1971-1972) passed away on November 16, 2021. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Sioux Falls, SD. He was laid to rest in South Dakota Veterans Cemetery, Sioux Falls, SD. David is a veteran of the Persian Gulf War.

# The 11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia QM Store



#1 Coffee Mug \$15.00



#2 Key Ring \$6.00



#3 Bumper Sticker \$3.00



#4 Window Sticker \$3.00



#7 Blackhorse Patch Colored \$5.00



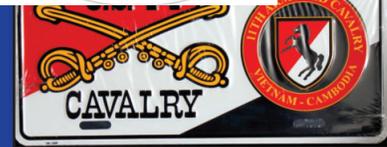
#8 Mouse Pad \$12.00



#10 Web Belt with buckle \$25.00



#9 CIB car magnet, 3" x 4" \$6.00



#13 License Plate, Blackhorse \$9.00



#11 Flag, Indoor/Outdoor \$60.00



#16 Tote Bag, Embroidered \$22.00



#17 Blackhorse Pin \$5.00



#14 License Plate Frame, Black w/white letters \$13.00



#15 Attache Case \$30.00



#18 11th ACR Regimental Crest \$5.00



#19 Blackhorse Cavalry Pin \$5.00



#26 Large Magnetic Patch (8" x 7 3/4") \$7.00



#20 Vietnam Blackhorse Pin, Wreath \$5.00



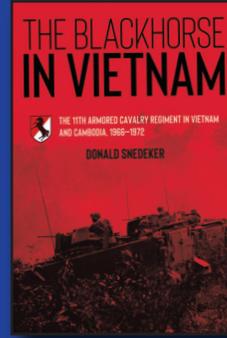
#21 Small Magnetic Patch (5" x 4 3/4") \$5.00



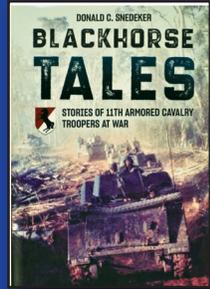
#22 Overnight Bag \$25.00



#5 Hoodie Sweat Shirt \$30.00



#34 "The Blackhorse in Vietnam" \$25.00

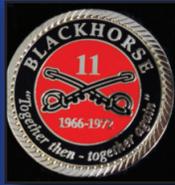


#33 Blackhorse Tales \$25.00

#37 Book, "Tales of Thunder Run" by Chaplain Larry Haworth \$11.00



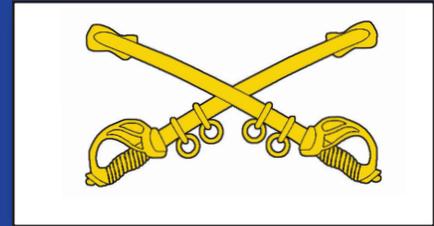
#25 Blackhorse Coin \$15.00



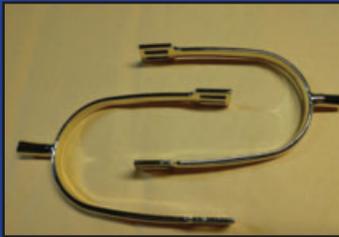
#31 Lapel or Hat Pin Size Spurs \$7.00



#35 See through Window Decal Sabers and Patch, 12" x 13" \$15.00



#32 See through Window Decal, Sabers, 13" x 13" \$15.00



#27 Golden Boot Spurs \$30.00



#36. Sweatshirts w/ BH patch, \$28.00



#44 See through Window Decal Blackhorse Patch, 5" x 4.5" \$10.00



#45 See through Window Decal Blackhorse Patch, 12" x 13" \$15.00



#40 Specialty T-Shirt: sizes S, M, L, 2X, 3X, 4 X \$20



#38a



#38b



#38c



#38d

#38 Poplin Hats \$17.00



#39 a/b T-Shirt, Light Gray & Green \$20.00



#43 Windbreaker, black w/snap front & BH Insignia & VN Ribbon, \$35.00



#41 Light (A) or Dark (B) Denim Shirt, w/BH & VN Ribbon \$35.00



#42 Blackhorse Jacket (lined), 100% Nylon \$95.00



# From the Quartermaster...

Jerry Beamon

Hello Troopers and Trooper's wives,  
Spring is here already, and we are headed for summertime which means our 37th Reunion is close at hand. So, let's all start making our plans to be in Birmingham Alabama September 7th-11th. You can make your reservations ahead of time and cancel by the deadline if you need to.

I'm asking everyone to please, please,

not to use PAST order form from the THUNDER RUN. Prices have changed some, and some items have been delated and we are not carrying them anymore.

Also, so many of you are leaving off your phone number, so I cannot contact you when you order an item and we don't carry it anymore, or you forget to put down your shirt size.

And as always, we are asking for vol-

unteers, if you have any spare time, we could use the extra help. Just come on by and we'll put you to work. And if you ordered a reunion shirt and cannot come to the reunion, we can mail it to you ahead of time. Hope to see all of you in Birmingham in just a few months.

ALLONS

Jerry

**Give me an Army of West Point graduates and I'll win a battle...  
Give me a handful of Texas Aggies and I'll win a war.  
.....George S. Patton**

## Newsletter Deadlines

Due dates to submit articles for *Thunder Run*

**1st Quarter .....Jan 1**  
**2nd Quarter .....Apr 1**  
**3rd Quarter .....Jul 1**  
**4th Quarter .....Oct 1**

All submissions for publication must be sent to: Peter L. Walter, 8 Tallowood Drive, Westampton, NJ 08060-3721; email [basepiece70@verizon.net](mailto:basepiece70@verizon.net).

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

### 11th ARMORED CAVALRY'S VETERANS OF VIETNAM AND CAMBODIA

Membership is open to all troopers who served with or were attached to the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment while in the countries of Vietnam or Cambodia from August 1966 thru March 1972. Membership is also open to the wives, parents and children of our Troopers killed in action.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

UNIT \_\_\_\_\_ DATES: FROM \_\_\_\_\_ TO \_\_\_\_\_  
(Troop,Sqdn) (Mo/Yr) (Mo/Yr)

SER NO RANK (during tour) \_\_\_\_\_ SSN NO \_\_\_\_\_

OTHER INFORMATION \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE MEMBERSHIP:  NEW  RENEWAL MEMBERSHIP NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_  
 ANNUAL (\$15)  LIFE (\$50)

IN ADDITION, PLEASE ACCEPT MY TAX DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTION FOR \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I authorize the release of my address/phone number to other Troopers who served with the 11th ACR

(Sign) \_\_\_\_\_

Visa  Mastercard Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks/money orders payable to: **11th ACVVC**. Mail this form with your check or money order (no cash) to: **11th ACVVC Membership, Ollie Pickral, 571 Ditchley Rd., Kilmarnock, VA 22482.**



# Quartermaster

ORDER FORM • 2nd Qtr 2022

11TH ARMORED CAVALRY'S VETERANS OF VIETNAM AND CAMBODIA

| Item No.                     | Product Description   | \$ Amt | Size  | Qty   | \$ Total |
|------------------------------|---|--------|-------|-------|----------|
| 1.                           | Coffee Mug, white, ceramic (glass) 11oz w/full color Blackhorse insignia .....  | 15.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 2.                           | Key ring, Plastic .....   | 6.00   | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 3.                           | Bumper Sticker "I Rode With The Blackhorse" w/full color BH insignia .....  | 3.00   | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 4.                           | Window Sticker, full color BH insignia and Vietnam service ribbon .....   | 3.00   | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 5.                           | Hoodie Sweat Shirt .....  | 30.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 7.                           | Blackhorse Shoulder Patch, Colored .....  | 5.00   | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 8.                           | Mouse Pads .....  | 12.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 9.                           | CIB car magnet, 3"x4" .....   | 6.00   | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 10.                          | Belt: Military style 'web' trouser belt with Blackhorse buckle.....   | 25.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 11.                          | Flag, indoor/outdoor 3'x5' with color insignia .....  | 60.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 13.                          | License Plate, metal red & white background with crossed sabers & 11 .....  | 9.00   | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 14.                          | License Plate Frame, metal, black w/Blackhorse 11th US Cavalry in white .....   | 13.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 15.                          | Attache Case w/shoulder strap 11.5" x 15.5" w/dir emb. BH insignia & VN rib .....   | 30.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 16.                          | Tote Bag, red & black, 14x1x6 w/full color BH insignia and VN rib .....   | 22.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 17.                          | Blackhorse Pin .....  | 5.00   | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 18.                          | 11th ACR Regimental Crest .....   | 5.00   | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 19.                          | Blackhorse Cavalry Pin, brass, 11 over crossed sabers .....   | 5.00   | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 20.                          | Vietnam Blackhorse Pin w/wreath.....  | 5.00   | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 21.                          | Small Magnetic Patch "Blackhorse" (5"x 4 3/4") .....  | 5.00   | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 22.                          | Overnight Bag.....  | 25.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 25.                          | Blackhorse Coin.....  | 15.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 26.                          | Large Magnetic Patch "Blackhorse" (8" x 7 3/4") .....   | 7.00   | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 27.                          | Golden Boot Spurs .....   | 30.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 28.                          | Video: "Combat Reports" (DVD Only).....   | 30.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 31.                          | Lapel or Hat Pin Size Spurs .....   | 7.00   | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 32.                          | See through Window Decal, Sabers, 13" x 13".....  | 15.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 33.                          | Book, "Blackhorse Tales" .....  | 25.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 34.                          | Book, "The Blackhorse in Vietnam" by Donald Snedeker.....   | 25.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 35.                          | See through Window Decal Sabers and Patch, 12" x 13".....   | 15.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 36.                          | Sweatshirts w/ BH patch, gray only. Size: <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> L <input type="checkbox"/> XL <input type="checkbox"/> 2XL <input type="checkbox"/> 3XL ..... | 28.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 37.                          | Book, "Tales of Thunder Run," by Chaplain Larry Haworth .....   | 11.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 38.                          | Hat, Poplin adjustable <input type="checkbox"/> 38a, <input type="checkbox"/> 38b, <input type="checkbox"/> 38c, <input type="checkbox"/> 38d.....  | 17.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 39.                          | Blackhorse T-shirt, 100% cotton, preshrunk, full color BH insignia. Specify color: <input type="checkbox"/> Light Gray <input type="checkbox"/> Green .....                                 | 20.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 40.                          | Specialty T-Shirt: sizes S, M, L, XL, 2X, 3X, 4 X .....   | 20.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 41.                          | Denim shirt (men's) <input type="checkbox"/> Light (A) <input type="checkbox"/> Dark (B) .....  | 35.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 42.                          | Blackhorse Jacket, 100% Nylon, zipper front, fleece lining w/full color BH insignia, (6" back ), and ACVVC front left .....   | 95.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 43.                          | Windbreaker, black w/snap front, BH insignia & VN Ribbon .....  | 35.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 44.                          | See through Window Decal Blackhorse Patch 5" x 4.5" .....   | 10.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 45.                          | See through Window Decal Blackhorse Patch 12" x 13" .....   | 15.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| <b>Subtotal</b>              |   |        |       |       | _____    |
| <b>Shipping and Handling</b> |   |        |       |       | _____    |
| <b>Total</b>                 |   |        |       |       | _____    |

Note: unless otherwise noted, all clothing items are available in size medium through size 3XL Specify size and color preference of item requested.

### Shipping Costs: (Includes multiple Items)

- A) \$3.00 — \$5.00 = \$3.00    C) \$10.00 — \$35.00 = \$15.00    Gear Bag Only = \$25.00
- B) \$6.00 — \$10.00 = \$9.00    D) \$36.00 and up = \$20.00    Gear Bags with other items = \$28.00

Visa  Mastercard Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ CVC Code \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**\* If paying by check, please write your drivers license number on the check.**

\*Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

\*Address \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

\*City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Check if address change

Please include the largest of chosen items S/H costs with your order. Checks or Money Orders should be made payable to 11th ACVVC. **ALL PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE.** Previous price lists are invalid. Mail order to: 11th ACVVC Quartermaster, c/o Jerry Beamon, 15926 Cedar Bay Dr., Bullard, TX 75757. JerryLBea@aol.com

**\* Required info to process your order**



**11ACVVC**  
 13194 Rettew Dr.  
 Manassas, VA 20112-7800  
**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**

## REUNION 2022 SHERATON BIRMINGHAM



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