



# RIPCORD REPORT



For Friends and Survivors of the Battle of Fire Support Base Ripcord  
Republic of Vietnam 12 March - 23 July, 1970

Issue # 114

May 2018

## 2018 Ripcord Association Reunion

*Please note that the normal dates of the reunion have been changed for this year!*

Wednesday Oct. 31 to Saturday Nov. 3  
Leave Sunday Nov. 4

Sands Club Ocean Resort  
9550 Shore Dr, Myrtle Beach, SC 29572  
1-888-266-4375 for rooms  
Group Code: Ripcord Association

[Registration on page 12 of this issue](#)



## Donations

### *the life blood of our Association*

The following have given donations to the Ripcord Association since the last newsletter. These donations help keep the website and newsletters published to keep all our Ripcord members up to date.

- Leigh Freeman C 2/506
- Bill Williams B 2/506
- Maria Piccolo
- John Schuelke D 2/506
- Al Martin A 2/11 FA
- Frank Selinsky B 2/506
- Carl Naulty B 2/506
- David Kenyon 326 ENG
- Jay Wetherby A 2/506
- Cherlyn Sue Burdette In Memory of Randy Burdette A 2/11 FA

Checks payable to "Ripcord Association".

Mail to:

**Lee Widjeskog,  
493 Stillman Ave.  
Bridgeton, NJ 08302**



**Visit our website at  
[www.ripcordassociation.com](http://www.ripcordassociation.com)**

Read the **Ripcord Report** on line  
Daily updates ● History  
and much more

Opinions expressed in submitted material are not necessarily those of the editorial staff. We reserve the right to reject any material deemed to be inappropriate. We also reserve the right to edit all submissions, but we will make every effort to maintain the writer's concept and meaning. Please be brief and concise.



Join us on Facebook group  
Ripcord Association

**Visit our website at  
[www.ripcordassociation.com](http://www.ripcordassociation.com)**

Please continue to send your letters and send your comments or articles to:  
[frankmarshall@ripcordassociation.com](mailto:frankmarshall@ripcordassociation.com)

or postal mail to:

**Frank Marshall  
567 Circle Drive  
Surfside Beach, SC 29575**

Everyone would love to hear from you.

## **RIPCORD REPORT**

**Ripcord Report** is a publication of the **Ripcord Association**, and is the authoritative voice of history for the Battle of Fire Support Base Ripcord.

### **Ripcord Report**

[www.ripcordassociation.com](http://www.ripcordassociation.com)

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# FROM THE EDITOR

Frank Marshall A/2-506



I finally did it. On April 7th, 2018, I got married. I could not be happier. I live a few blocks from beach in Surfside Beach, SC. I had a small reception in a restaurant at the beach hotel here. I was honored to have a few of the Ripcord members attend and I wish I could have had all of you from the Ripcord Association there. Below is a group photo of us.

I will definitely be at the 2018 reunion in Myrtle Beach since it is only 20 minutes from my house. I hope to see everyone there this year. I know a lot of Alpha company guys plan on being there. I missed the last couple reunions as the distance was too far, plus I had a few hurricanes knocking at my door the same time of the reunions. One year, we had to evacuate and good ole Bruce Brady from Alpha let us stay at his house in NC. They call that true brotherhood.

It is hard to imagine, but it is 48 years since Ripcord veterans were together in Vietnam. The 50th Anniversary will be in the year 2020 and the reunion will be July in Springfield MO. You don't want to miss that one.

See most of you soon in Myrtle Beach.

## Ripcord on Facebook

by Anthony Chritchlow



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ripcordassociation/>

Hi everyone. Well spring has sprung here in Idaho. I'm hoping the same goes where you're at. My wife and I are looking forward to our vacation on the Oregon coast in June.

On our Face book page we are up to 719 followers. As always I want to thank everyone for their posts on our page. You are the ones that keep our page fresh.

Our trip back to Vietnam with the Greatest Generation Foundation is still a go. We just don't know when it will happen. All I have from then is mid to late summer 2018. They did ask us where we would like to visit when there. Overwhelmingly everyone said back to Ripcord. But we all know this most likely won't happen. Helicopters are very expensive to rent. I will post any news on the trip on our Face book page.

Everyone be safe this spring



# JERSEY RAMBLINGS

by Lee Widjeskog A/2-506



By the time you receive this newsletter, Memorial Day may be past. It is a time when many take a moment to think about the sacrifices veterans have made. It was established to remember those of the armed forces who died in service to their country. It has been around for 150 years but most people know little about it. As this year marks 100 years since the end of World War I, let us think about how we have come to remember the dead.

Memorial Day started in earnest following the civil war. The American Civil War led to over 600,000 deaths in a nation of only 31,000,000. By the war's end women throughout the south and north were decorating the graves of those killed. After the surrender of the southern states, a series of national cemeteries were established by the federal government in areas not far from the battle sites. This enabled more of the northern people to locate the graves of their family member killed if the body was not returned. Thus decorating the graves became possible and it often helped the families feel closer to their departed loved ones. This was already being done by southern families which were closer to the battle sites.

In 1868 General John Logan or the GAR (Grand Army of the Republic) set 30 May as the day to decorate graves. It is thought he and the GAR chose this day since there had been no major battles fought during the time. This first solemn celebration was held at Arlington National Cemetery.

A quote from General James A. Garfield at that ceremony was and still is quite appropriate for this occasion even over 100 years later "We do not know one promise these men made, one pledge they gave, one word they spoke, but we do know they summed up and perfected, by one supreme act, the highest virtue of men and citizens. For love of country they accepted death, and thus resolved all doubts, and made immortal their patriotism and their virtue!"

From 1868 on, the northern states celebrated "Decoration Day" on May 30. In the south it was also celebrated on various other days as they saw fit.

This continued for 50 years until the end of World War I, "The war to end all wars". For the first time since the Civil War, America found itself in a fight that all the states felt worth the loss of life. With the selective Service draft and the push to help our friends and allies in Europe, all the states were now responding with

soldiers to help fight the Axis Powers of Europe.

This war saw the use of the machine gun for the first time used as a major weapon on the battlefield against ground troops and calvary. Artillery had reached new dimensions of destructiveness in the form of range and explosive powers. Suddenly, as had happened in our Civil War, the fighting now directly affected the civilian population as well as the military. Air planes, just recently invented, were quickly used to advantage to discover how troops were being deployed and to interdict them when possible. Probably the most horrible weapon of all was the introduction of poison gas which killed and maimed on a broad and indiscriminate scale never before seen.

Old tactics were deployed against these new weapons with disastrous results. Out of the trenches the solders moved into the heavy machine gun fire and exploding artillery and or poisonous gas. In Flanders, Belgium over the course of three years well over 600,000 Axis and Allies solders died in a battle area that changed hands time and time again.

The horrible loss of life led to the poem, "In Flanders Fields" by an artillery man John McCrae. In it he describes the poppies that have volunteered in growth on the grave sites and the battle ground. The seeds that are spread by the wind grow on freshly disturbed ground as found on this land shot and bombed continuously.

In Flanders field the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row,  
That mark our place: and in the sky  
The larks still bravely singing fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.  
We are the dead, short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunsets glow  
Loved and were loved, and now we lie  
In Flanders fields  
Take up our quarrel with the foe:  
To you from falling hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold it high.  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep. Though poppies grow in Flanders fields.

With the return of our troops, Decoration Day, had new meaning and soon the states north and south were decorating graves and remembering soldiers on May 30.

Following World War II, the use of the phrase "Decoration Day" was gradually being replaced by

( continued on page 5)

*(Jerey Ramblings continued)*

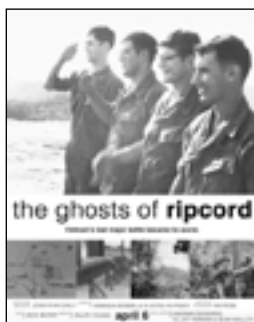
“Memorial Day”. In 1971, “Memorial Day” was made a federal holiday and was officially celebrated on the last Monday of May to provide a three day holiday.

On Memorial Day the flag is briskly raised to full staff and then lowered to half-staff till noon when it is raised once more to full height. At 3PM local time a minute of silent observation or the playing of “Taps” is done to remember those who died in war.

Memorial Day is set aside to remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice in war. Let us not forget them!

*Lee Widjeskog*

## **The Ghosts of Ripcord” Documentary**



There are still DVDs available of the feature-length documentary entitled, The Ghosts of Ripcord. To place an order please visit our official Facebook page here: <https://www.facebook.com/firebasefilm>

You can also go directly to the link below to place an order more quickly.

<https://www.facebook.com/commerce/products/1414513478659718/>

You will receive your DVD in the mail within 7-10 business days from the time your order is received and processed. Any questions regarding past or future orders should be directed to our Facebook page's inbox or to our official email: [firebasefilm@gmail.com](mailto:firebasefilm@gmail.com)

Thank you!

## **Myrtle Beach 2018 Sign Ups (13 May)**

Jim & Irene Aanonsen A 2/506

Wayne & Loretta Ball A 2/506

Bill Boles D 2/506

Bruce Bond 58th Inf.

William (Tex) Campbell D 2/506

Russ & Mary Ann Dixon B 2/319 FA

Dennis & Rena Figley C /506

Fred & Carol Gilbert D 2/506

Don & Linda Holthausen C 2/506

Bob & Red Judd B 2/506

David & Sophia Kenyon 326 ENG

Greg & Kristi Kiekintveld 326 ENG

Alfred & Sondra Martin A 2/11 FA

John Mason D 2/506

Jim & Michelle McCoy D 1/506

Uwe & Diane Meyer B 2/506

Thomas & Annette Militello A 2/11 FA

Clem & Susan Neiderer HHC 2/501

Tom & Barbara Peacock D 2/506

George & Sheila Potts B 2/319 FA

David & Lisa Snyder A 2/11 FA

Fred & Micki Spaulding HHC 3rd BDE

Lee & Kathy Widjeskog A 2/506



## INCOMING MAIL



Hi Ripcord.

Carolyn and I are doing well. I take a short walk (4 blocks) at 5PM and come back and enjoy a glass of wine and watch the 5:30 news.

*Best wishes to all!*

*Ben and Carolyn Harrison*

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Hi Frank,

My husband Carl Naulty was on Firebase Ripcord (B 2/506). He's not much on talking about it. But I think at times he would, anyway he likes getting the paper. Could you see if our address has changed. Thanks for doing all that you do.

*Kim Naulty*

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Good Morning,

Thank you for your service and the Ripcord Association. The website has educated me on the battles of Vietnam, that were not taught during my education.

The attached donation in being make to honor the 70th birthday of my cousin Peter Melero. He was drafted as a youth in Brooklyn NY and served with the Army in Vietnam.

I do not know much about his specific experience but know he is associated the Ripcord Battle and this accociation. He takes great pride in his service and the men he served with.

This association and its many reunions,with the comradery and support I feel have be a great comfort to my cousin and his peers.

Thank you for telling the history that has not been taught and providing a place for so many.

*Maria Cimato Piccolo*

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Dear Lee,

I don't have much memory about the guys I served with. It was such a revolving door for me. I was sent up to the 101st in March 1970 when the 1st Inf Div went stateside. I spent two months on Ripcord as FDO with B 2/319 until May 25, 1970. Then I was transferred to A 2/319 and put out as FO with C Company 1/506. I stayed with them until DEROS in Sept. 1970.

While I was on Ripcord, there wasn't a lot of action.

That all started after I was with Charlie Company. I worked mostly in the TOC calculating weather data and plotting firing data. No contact with gun crews. I do remember Captain Rich, and thought he was crazy for not taking R&R to see his wife. Turns out, he was quite a guy under fire! Ripcord wasn't very well located. We were too far out for close in artillery support – only 175s could reach us. And the enemy had plenty of high ground from which to observe and shell the firebase. I didn't want to leave the firebase and go back out as FO, but in retrospect, it was a blessing.

While with the infantry, I dealt mostly with the company commander, Zippo, and my RTO, etc. I don't recall any casualties. Any notes I had written during that period have been lost, though a few photos have survived. I would be glad to dig them up and share them. Perhaps someone could put names to the faces.

*Sincerely,*

*CPT Ron Krom (Then LT)*

*A & B Battery 2/319 FA*

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Lee,

Enclosed is a donation for the Ripcord Association for mailing me the Ripcord Report. I was the 1st Sergeant of D 2/501 when my company was up on Hill 805 in July 1970. This check is to pay for sending me the newsletter as I do not have a computer. At age 87 I don't plan on getting one. But I wish to say "Drive On" to all D 2/501 troops in the association. My writing is not good as age seems to be taking over. But, the best to all Ripcord Troops!

*John Schuelke*

*D 2/501*

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Lee,

I knew Lt. William Penn Wall III. He was the forward observer. He was Roman Catholic and from western Washington state I saw him a day or two before he was killed. He had a cold and a rash running from his right nostril to the corner of his mouth. He was waiting for news of the birth of his child. His college friends called him Bink. He was calling in fire when he was killed by mortar fire. I has told him to find a safe place where he could observe and call in fire. He was adjusting fire on a mortar position at the time. When I saw Cpt. Ben King, the C.O., C Btry, 2/319th Arty, told me several weeks later that Bill had been in a safe position, but could not

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see, and Ben ordered him to move to where he could see. After Bill was killed, Ben was ordered to put Bill's body in a body bag.

I do not remember the other two. I was back in the US when they died. I will inquire about them on Facebook.

Like the mariner in "The Rhyme of the Ancient Mariner," Bill Wall is my albatross. I told him what to do and how to do it, and he died following my orders. I have relived and reviewed the situation in my mind endlessly. If I had the chance to relive the incident and change my instructions to him, I would not. Bill's death still weighs heavily on me. I still feel responsible.

*Ray Hines*  
2/319 FA



*William Wall*



*Michael Grimm*



*John Knott*



*Elroy Valle*



*Pat DeWulf*



*Ron Schultz*

Lee,

Mike Grimm was in my squad for a time and we shared a blanket a night or two. He had a scout named B or Bea and I think they had some training together. I remember Mike being a man of good spirits most of the time and quick to laugh. Most of all I think about the day Mike died. I had just gotten a call about the captain and his R.T.O. being pinned down by R.P.D. fire. I told the R.T.O to pop smoke on the enemy position. I said banana and he said roger. When I saw that the Lieutenant and I were the only ones available for a rescue I told the lieutenant that the captain was pinned down and off we went. I only went about 20 yards across the hill when I looked up and saw Mike leaning against a tree. Someone was taking a bandolier off of Mike and when he saw me I gave them a what look. I was worried that Mike was wounded and suffering in pain. The guy looking after Mike drug his finger across his neck and I knew. He held up one finger then pointed to his heart and snapped his fingers. I remember thinking that it was good that Mike wasn't suffering in pain. I had to get back to thinking about the job at hand. Five minutes later I was shot in the hand and I took one in the middle of my webb belt buckle.

I often think about that day and how Mike got shot. He was moving forward towards the

enemy in the middle of a full blown lead spraying gunfight. In my opinion Mike should have been awarded at least a bronze star to go with his purple heart. He got shot in the front while charging the enemy and he will always have my respect. I think Mike was a True Warrior.

*Tom Gaut*  
D.Co. 2/506

Lee

John Knott was from MN. He was young a boy soldier. his MOS was 11 hotel, a recoilless rifleman 106 and 90 mm. he and I used a 90 mm on Katherine. He knew his MOS. the reason I know I trained 11 hotels at Polk. Elroy Valle was a TexMex from Tex. He was very religious he wore a Rosary around his right wrist with a Crucifix in the palm of his hand. he was my squads point man. I usually walked slack. His Mother and I think his sister would seen him taps in Spanish. he was a quiet person and always had a slight smile. we always where together night position and always on RIFS together. Pat DeWulf started walking slack a few days before he was killed he died doing my job .Ron Schultz was a Minonite he didn't have to go in the Army but did and was a medic. .he had served six months in the field with the 99th Infantry and was suppose to be in the rear but we were short a medic so he was with us 1st Platoon.Ron was exposed to many things that a Minonite would have not know about or had to deal with. the Ripcord book makes him less than he was. drugs and fear can make a person do anything. these guys where my friends even a lifetime later I still think of them.

*Paul Mueller*

Lee

John Knott hailed from northern Minnesota and attended high school in Pine River. John grew up in large family I believe one of the youngest. He liked hunting and fishing and nature. The summer before entering the army he worked in the local lumberyard. His dad and brothers were loggers and woodsmen John had told us. John was soft spoken and not much for conversation.but he had only been with Delta Company a short time

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before Ripcord. Like all newbies his feet were sore from new boots and he was one of the few guys with clean fresh clothes and gear. Captain Workman pulled Randy Benck and me aside and asked us to keep on eye out for John as we were Minnesota boys.

In the process of clearing a night defensive position, our squad was ambushed by a large NVA unit July 20th, 1970. Several of Delta troops were killed and wounded in the firefight. I saw John moving upright toward an enemy mortar position and jumped out to grab him into our trench. Fifty foot in front of us an NVA soldier popped up with an RPG and a flash was all I remember for sometime. Randy recovered me the next day and later learned John had not survived. A picture of John stands in the glass display case at the local VFW in Pine River MN.

*Dale Tauer*  
*Delta 1/506*



*Thomas Gates*



*Leroy Nelson*



*George Selman*

Hi Lee Widjeskog

My Name is Lyle A Kohmstcher. I Was the Platoon Sargent of several of these men. I was Ptatoon SGT of the 1st Platoon. I was transferred from D.co. 1/11th inf. 5th Mech in February 1970 to B Co. 2/501, 101st an E-6.Our Lt. was Robert Layton. The other Lt's were Steven Forstrom 2nd Platoon and Prentice Joye 3rd Platoon. Our Captain was Robert Stanton. We lost the entire squad of the 1st Platoon on the morning of April 9th, 1970 when they were ambushed by the NVA. It has been nearly 48 years since this incident took place. I will add what I remember about these men plus the quotes from the Virtual wall website and Brovo 2/501 web site that other members of the Co. have written. Some place it says it was a 6 man squad, but it was actually an 8 man squad that was hit at first light on April 9, 1970.

Here is what I recall below during the period of time from April 8,1970 untill I left for home on July 21, 1970.

On Aprnl 9, 1970 there were 5 wounded, and 3 KIA. The wounded were Jose Morales, Tom Patchell, a grunt named Bristol, Lenard Blachly



*James Mace*



*Herman Clay*



*Don Sistrunk*

and Thomas L Gates who was paralyzed and died from his wounds on November 25, 1986 at the age of 36, his parents got his name added to the wall. The KIA's were James Doyle Mace, LeRoy Nelson, and George Selman. This was the entire squad that was hit by the NVA just at sunup.

Later that day in the afternoon Herman Allen Clay was KIA as he spotted an NVA and as he engaged him they both fired at the same time. Herman killed the NVA that killed him. This all happened in the same NDP.

We moved to a position just west of the LZ we landed on 4/8/70 to make an NDP for the night of 4/9/1970. The next day on 4/10/1970 as we were preparing to move out to join the rest of the Company Donald Wayne Sistrunk was killed by a sniper as he stood up to come to the CP in the middle of the NDP. By this time our Platoon was down to around 19 people.

I believe it was on April 17, 1970 when 3rd platoon was attacked by a NYA force on the knoll that you went on. I believe the person killed from that action was Norman Douglas Peery. I'm not sure on this, it has been many years ago. My Platoon was just north of 3rd Platoon on the other part of the hill when this happened. I know it was during the day.

While we were on the hill, (called ReUp Hill, actually hill 640) they were dropping bombs all around the area where 1st Platoon was ambushed on the 9th and you could see fires to the East of the hill at night where the NVA were.

On Aprll 18, 1970 we moved off of the hill to the East and back through the LZ we had come into on April 8th. There were no trees left and craters everywhere as we past though that location. We made an NDP that night further to the East. The next morning we were all on stand to before dawn so we would be ready. Our chieu hoi scout Bein had gone outside the perimeter and came running back saying Boo-coo NV.A. Shortly after that all hell broke loose for a short time. This is when James Dale Jerrett and Jeffery J Joseph were killed and Doug Greer was wounded in the second platoon. Jeffery was alive but he died being medivacked and Doug is still blind today from that incident. After that we moved out to an LZ and were all taken out.

I think we went to FB Granite after that for



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a short time. Right after we left Granite the NVA attacked Alpha on Granite and we went back to Granite I think. One of the men from my platoon was on Granite with Alpha Co and was KIA on April 29, 1970. He had wanted to become a contentious objector after Re-up hill and stayed on the base so they could review his case. His name was Robert Boggs. Next we went to FB Henderson on May 6, 1970 the morning after it was attacked and nearly overrun. That is where the entire platoon got wiped out. We were there for several days and the NVA were lobbing mortars at us plus the artillery shells were cooking off inside the perimeter. They had been set off from the attack by satchel charges from the sappers. We policed up the bodies of the dead Americans after we were there about 2 days. They were all badly burned from the ammo dump explosion and decomposing from the heat. That was not a pleasant detail to be on. I think there were 27 dead Americans on the Hill that morning.

After that I think we were on shot patrols and going from fire base to fire base until July 14, 1970 when the company went to hill 1000 by firebase Ripcord. There were several wounded that day and Dennis Wiilard Huffine was KIA from 1st Platoon that day. He was hit and killed by a stray bullet as he was helping load wounded onto a chopper.

I was not in the field that day. I was in the rear getting ready to ETS out of the army. I returned home July 22, 1970.

Lyle A Kohmtscher.  
B Co. 2/501

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On an early May morning in 1970, Bob Zoller and a handful of Charlie Company new guys were put to work to build a bunker on Firebase Ripcord's southern perimeter. Bob Zoller, I, and the others were shown where to dig. We took turns with the picks and the shovels. In between the picking and shoveling, we watched the Army's Cobra gunships use its mini-guns and rockets to strike North Vietnamese Army—NVA--targets on a distant ridge.

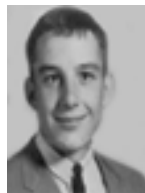
About four feet down into the digging, we came across a large boulder. It was at least three



*James Jerrett*



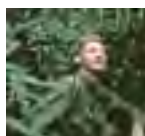
*Jeff Joseph*



*Norman Peery*



*Dennis Huffine*



*Bob Zoller*

feet in diameter. Bob and I took turns on the pick, trying to break it up. Captain Vasquez, Charlie Company's CO, happened by and took an interest in our efforts. After watching our lack of progress, he couldn't take it anymore, so he jumped down into the hole. Grabbing the pick out of my hands, he asked, "What're you? Some kinda city boy?" The Captain showed us how to swing a pick to break up an obstinate boulder. After the demonstration, Bob and I destroyed that rock.

On a sunny, very hot and humid 13 May 1970, Charlie Company left Firebase Ripcord in helicopters for a jungle landing zone. Bob was one of first platoon's M-60 Machine-Gunners. Bob Zoller was a quiet, intelligent, compassionate, and generous young man with an ironic sense of humor. From him, I was introduced to the literature of J.R.R. Tolkien and its parody, Bored of the Rings. The various books and our discussion of them on the jungle trails and in the night defensive positions helped us to pass the time and to expand the mind.

On 6 June 1970, Charlie Company returned to Camp Evans, for a stand down period of rest and relaxation. Later that day, Bob shared out a care package that he had received from his folks back home in Ohio. It was the first time I'd ever seen or tasted a banana chip. I liked them so much that Bob souvenired me a big handful of them.

The next day, I began a three-week hospital stay in Phu Bai and Can Ranh Bay for surgeries on my leg and convalescence for a severe jungle-rot infection, known as cellulitis.

On my return to Camp Evans on July first, the Charlie Company clerk told me I was going out to the Company's night defensive position on Hill 902 the next day.

While in the hospital, I had read a couple books that I wanted to talk about to Bob. I was looking forward to seeing him on Hill 902, so we could resume the conversation.

In the early morning hours of 2 July 1970, eight members of Charlie Company, including Bob Zoller, were killed in a battle with NVA sappers and infantry on Hill 902.

It's been almost fifty years since I've seen Bob Zoller, and I still miss him. When I see banana chips at the grocery, I always think of him.

*Leigh Freeman*  
C/2-506

# 506th Infantry Regiment Distinguished and Honorary Member of the Regiment Induction Ceremony

*by Bob Seitz*

The 1st and 2nd Battalions of the 506th Infantry recently conducted their annual ceremony to award both Distinguished (DMOR) and Honorary (HMOR) Members of the 506th Infantry Regiment. The DMOR/HMOR Induction ceremony was held at the Currahee Memorial at Ft Campbell, KY on 24 May 2018. This year's DMORs included both World War 2, Vietnam, and Iraq/Afghanistan Currahee veterans, and included Richard Clanton, Ben Currin, Leigh Freeman, William Galbraith, Leonard Goodgal, Jarrett Goodman, James Harris, William Husted, Timothy James, Calvin Kato, Frank Litchfield, Chris MacGeorge, Jerome Minahan, Robert Pagano, Carlos Rijos, Victor Roubidoux, Patrick Skinner, James Smith, Richard St John, Joshua Sutherland, Dale Tauer, Matthew Van Arsdale, James Waybright. This year's HMORs are Chris Anderson, Anne Colone, Michael Monsoor.

To be recognized by your fellow soldiers to be a DMOR of the 506th Regiment is great honor and privilege.

DMORs are remembered by their fellow soldiers for their valor, courage, dedication, leadership in battle and for a lifetime of service to soldiers and our great Nation. The HMOR recipients have all significantly contributed to the 506th Regiment in exceptional and distinctive ways, and always showing their genuine concern for the soldiers of this great Regiment. And what makes this DMOR/HMOR ceremony even more meaningful was the presence of so many of veteran brothers from all three of the Currahee battalions that attended the ceremony to honor all the DMORs and HMORs, showing their great respect and admiration.

The next 506th DMOR/HMOR ceremony will be held next Spring 2019. Once the date is set, announcements will be made on the DMOR/HMOR nomination process and the timeline for submission. The selection process is conducted by the Battalion Commanders and Battalion Sergeants Major of the 1st and 2nd Battalions of the 506th Infantry.

At the present time, neither the 1st or 2nd Battalions of the 506th Infantry are scheduled for any upcoming deployments. Both battalions are at Ft Campbell home station conducting rifle squad, platoon and company training for potential missions in the months ahead.

Since the stand-down of the 4th Brigade, the 1st Battalion is now assigned to the 1st Brigade of the 101st Airborne Division and the 2nd Battalion is assigned to the 3rd Brigade of the 101st.



# Future Reunions

2018 Myrtle Beach, SC  
Wednesday Oct. 31 to Saturday Nov. 3 Leave Sunday Nov. 4  
Sands Club Ocean Resort

2019 Springfield, MO  
Wed. 24 July to Sat. 27 July, leave Sunday 28 July 2019  
University Plaza Hotel in Springfield, MO  
\$92 per night before taxes. Breakfast included

2020 Springfield, MO  
Monday 20 July to Thursday 23 July leave Friday 24 July 2020  
University Plaza Hotel in Springfield, MO  
\$92 per night before taxes. Breakfast included

## Ripcord Association Membership

821 members in our Ripcord Association  
657 are Ripcord Veterans  
163 are Associate Members  
206 receive newsletter via Postal Mail  
615 receive the newsletter via e-mail  
723 on Facebook "Ripcord Association Group"

## Ripcord Association Newest Members

Hutchinson	Cloyd	C/2-506
Gunton	Bob	2/501
Smith	Julie	Associate Member
Burdette	Cherlyn Sue	Associate Member
Gardner	James	Associate Member
Gardner	Jennifer	Associate Member
Worley	Angie	Associate Member
Taylor	Tammy	Associate Member
Bell	Steve	Associate Member

**Please go to our website and update your membership to keep getting important information about our Ripcord Association and the upcoming Reunions and surveys to be conducted.**

If you receive the newsletter via e-mail and also by Postal mail and would like to stop the Postal mail delivery, please send an email to [mail@ripcordassociation.com](mailto:mail@ripcordassociation.com) and let us know. It would save the association time and money. Thank you.

# 2018 FSB RIPCORD REUNION SIGN UP SHEET

## At the Sands Ocean Club Resort, Myrtle Beach, SC

Yes, I'll be there!

I have not attended a Reunion since 1997 and have not received a Ripcord Coin.

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

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ UNIT IN 'NAM \_\_\_\_\_

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

Will a family member(s) be attending? If yes what are their names? \_\_\_\_\_ (For name tag purposes only).

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Arrival Date \_\_\_\_\_

Registration fee of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed for # \_\_\_\_\_ Adults and # \_\_\_\_\_ children under 18.  
\$35 for children under 18. For adults see below !

### SIGN UP FEES

**Before June 30, 2018, \$75 per adult**

**July 1 through 31, 2018 \$80 per adult,**

**August 1 through October 1, 2018 \$85 per adult.**

**After October 1, 2018 \$90 per adult.**

Your registration fee covers the cost of the snacks, beverages, hot hors d'oeuvres on Friday night and dinner on Saturday.

### Sign up fee due October 26, 2018.

Make your check payable to "RIPCORD ASSOCIATION"

Mail your check with this form to:

**Lee Widjeskog, 493 Stillman Ave., Bridgeton, NJ 08302.**

Questions? Call Lee at 856-451-1108 before 26 Oct. 2018. (After call 609-774-6951)

### AGENDA

**Wednesday, October 31:** Hospitality suite opens at 1200 hours. (Self guided tours and shopping)

**Thursday, November 1** Hospitality suite opens at 1200 hours. (Golf in the AM) (Self guided tours)

**Friday, November 2** Hospitality 1200 Hours. Ladies raffle 1800 hours (6PM)

**Saturday, November 3** Business meeting for association business in Hospitality room.

Dinner with cash bar starting at 1700 hours done by 2200 hours.

**Sunday, November 4** Homeward bound

**Thursday golf outing (a separate fee). Check if you will play [    ].**

**HOTEL RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE SEPERATELY**

**BY October 1, 2018**

**CALL: 1-888-266-4375**

Ask for HOTEL RESERVATIONS and mention the

**GROUP CODE: RIPCORD ASSOCIATION**

(Price is \$62 per night plus tax: breakfast is included.)