

Subject: Mohave County Chapter 975 Dispatch Volume 2 Edition 4 April 20, 2008
From: "Chap Tom" <chap975@gmail.com>
Date: Sun, 20 Apr 2008 13:41:26 -0700
To: "Chap Tom" <chap975@gmail.com>



Mohave County Arizona Chapter 975
"CHAPTER 975 DISPATCH"

"Never again shall one generation of veterans abandon another"



***"Only two defining forces have ever offered to die for you,
Jesus Christ and the American G.I."
~One died for your soul, the other for your freedom~***





For Questions, Comments, Suggestions, Issues: Contact chaplain@vva975.org



In Memory of Ralph Clay Brother in Arms and Friend!



From Richard and Carol Carroll

Chaplain Tom, it is with our deepest sympathies that we stand by you during your loss of a friend and a "Brother". Our time here is limited and there is no number of days, weeks, or months that we can have to get ourselves ready to meet our Lord. We must be ready NOW as I'm sure Ralph Clay Jr. was ready. Carol and I won't be able to make the Memorial Services, But just know that we will be standing next to you in spirited faith as we pass another one of our "Brothers" to Heaven.

Bless you my friend and I'll be looking forward to meeting you again.....

With Sincere regards..... Richard & Carol Carroll Chapter # 785

Link to Chapter 975 Taps Page: <http://vva975.org/taps.htm>



***Vietnam Veterans Day Bullhead City and Golden Shores Items:
Bullhead City Council Proclamation:***

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, thirty-five years ago, on March 29, 1973, the last 2,500 troops were withdrawn from South Vietnam, thus ending military involvement in what is now the longest war in our country's history; and,

WHEREAS, due to the turbulent cultural climate of the era and unpopularity of the eleven-year conflict for all of the returning veterans that did not receive the respect and gratitude they richly deserved for serving their nation; and,

WHEREAS, it is time for all of us in the spirit of pride and gratitude to recall the heroic accomplishments of the 58,195 service men and women whose names are listed on the Vietnam Memorial Wall; and,

WHEREAS, we also wish to recognize the 621 men and women from the great State of Arizona who gave the ultimate sacrifice and thank them for their unselfish devotion to duty; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Bullhead City, Arizona, a prime example of a welcoming and thankful community, gratefully desires to pay tribute to our Vietnam Veterans,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jack Hakim, Mayor of the City of Bullhead City do hereby proclaim March 29 henceforth, as

VIETNAM VETERANS DAY

in Bullhead City, Arizona, and invite all citizens both in public ceremonies and in private thoughts and prayers to gratefully acknowledge this special group of veterans.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 18th day of March 2008.

ATTEST:


Diane Heilmann, City Clerk




Jack Hakim, Mayor



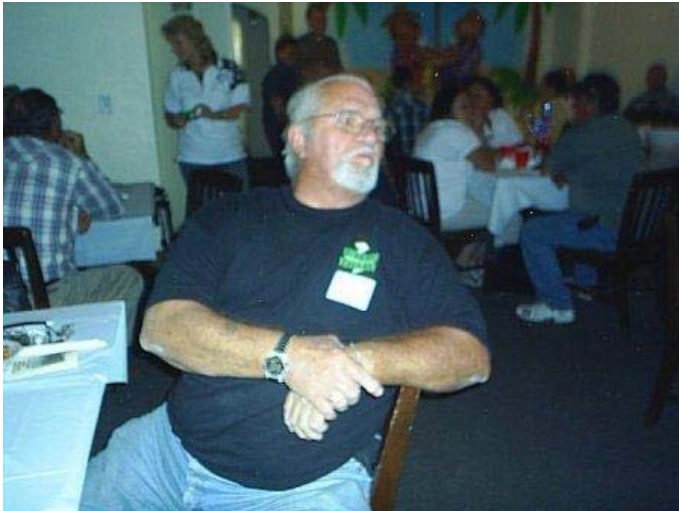


Vietnam Veterans Day 3/29/08 Arizona Veterans Memorial Park Bullhead City, AZ:



Vietnam Veterans Day Celebration 3/30/08 Hooch's River Grill Golden Shores, AZ:







From Sisto Sandoval



This is dedicated to Juan (Johnny) Martinez, who gave his all and his daughter Michelle Johnson who he left behind...11-11-08.

“HOW DO WE HONOR HIM”

The child, her eyes looking up the list of names on the Wall. Her eyes continue searching as she read name after name, glancing at small piece of paper Panel 33E, Line 59

A small hand reaching for the granite’s dark and cold stone that met her trembling fingers as she searches, line after line.

A small flag is waving by her tiptoed feet as she reaches out as if to touch someone, with caressing motion the face of someone not forgotten.

Then with a sigh of relief she calls out mom, “I found Grandpa”

Tears rolled down his daughter’s eyes; she had never known her father, he died in Vietnam.

This brave man who never left the jungle, gave life and freedom to millions of people. Yet he was never able to play ball or go to her prom or share and give his love to those he cared about he never made it home.

How do we honor him?

What about the man who walks in the store without an arm or a leg, a partial face. He left that part of him in Vietnam. He stood brave; he shed his blood on foreign ground and gave each of us our freedom no matter what race.

How do we honor him?

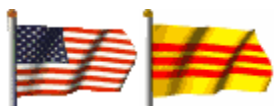
When in prayer do we remember that Veteran that was banished from admitting he was in Vietnam. He carries the pain embedded deep in his heart.

How do we honor him?

What about the elderly man who clutches his heart, and cries without cares each time he sees a photo of a friend and him together in Vietnam: He came home his friend is missing a MIA, only exists in memory now.

How do we honor him?

I stand before you to honor such men for they were my brothers, in them I trusted all of who I am, for them I'd die. They died for me, lost limbs and sight for me, went to hell with me in Freedom's name. I honor each by saying, "**welcome home**" and "**thank you**" for serving. My prayers go to you and those you loved, "**you'll never be forgotten**".





From John Pferdehirt:

RICHARD L CURD · WENDELL L DA
 CHARLES D HOM · JON R HONKA
 JOSEPH MAIURO · JOHN T MULLA
 ARTHUR T STACHOWSKI · KANDY
 JOHN W BADON · JESSE R BAKER
 KERRY T CLARK · BILLY CUNNING
 RONALD E GERWIG · KENNETH
 DANIEL MAKAREWICZ · CHARLI
 LEO PORTER · ROBERT A SNAVE
 JAMES W CLMENTS · ROBERT T
 BAXTER H ELLIS · THOMAS E IRV
 DARRIL U MAHAN · CHARLES V
 ROBERT E VIGGIANO · GARFIE
 ALFRED J CORNEJO · DANNY I

Twenty Five East, Twelve Down by John Pferdehirt 7.29-92

I wrote this poem after I visited the Vietnam Veterans Memorial commonly known as "The Wall". It was a tough trip. It is dedicated to a very good friend, Mr. Ron Gerwig who died in Vietnam.

Today I moved back in time

To an era that I recall
When I was young and restless
And my world seemed very small

Young men live with all their hearts
Each moment a fleeting pleasure
But time alone will be the judge
Of the moments we will treasure

These thoughts are whirling through my mind
As I walk along the Mall. (
The streets and pathways lead me to
A place we call "The Wall"

The Wall is just a symbol
An alter to remember
But a coldness grips my heart and soul
Like the cold winds of December

For those of us who served in Nam
We can see it in each other
Twenty five east and twelve down
Is in memory of my brother





*From Jim Crumly & Dave Clark:
BBQ Raffle Ticket Sales*





From Joe & Pam Bibich:

American Legion
Department of Washington
3600 Ruddell Rd SE
Lacey, WA 98503
(360) 491-4373

Soldier Care Packages to Get a Price Break

The US Postal Service announced that, beginning March 3, it is giving

military families and friends a special discount on the cost of sending packages to service members overseas. Shipping care packages in the USPS's 12 x 12 x 5.5-inch, "Priority Mail Large Flat-Rate Box," will cost \$10.95, instead of \$12.95, when the destination is an APO or FPO address. Military discount boxes will be available in post offices nationwide March 3.



From Richard Curren:

Richard is a friend and US Navy Veteran and volunteer patient escort at VA Long Beach who took Nana and me under his wing to teach us the ropes of being patient escorts. There are 30 miles of hallways at VA Long Beach!

Lord Bless and keep you Richard and the Tuesday 201 gang!

To everybody who thinks kids are special.

LOOK OUT FOR THE LAST STORY....IT WILL KNOCK YOUR SOCKS OFF

Author and lecturer Leo Buscaglia once talked about a contest he was asked to judge. The purpose of the contest was to find the most caring child.

The winner was:

A four-year-old child, whose next door neighbor was an elderly gentleman, who had recently lost his wife. Upon seeing the man cry, the little boy went into the old gentleman's yard, climbed onto his lap, and just sat there.

When his mother asked him what he had said to the neighbor, the

Little boy just said, "Nothing, I just helped him cry."

Teacher Debbie Moon's first graders were discussing a picture of a family. One little boy in the picture had a different hair color than the other members. One of her students suggested that he was adopted.

A little girl said, "I know all about adoption, I was adopted..."

"What does it mean to be adopted?" asked another child

"It means", said the girl, "that you grew in your mommy's heart instead of her tummy!"

On my way home one day, I stopped to watch a Little League base ball game that was being played in a park near my home. As I sat down behind the bench on the first-base line, I asked one of the boys what the score was.

"We're behind 14 to nothing," he answered with a smile.

"Really," I said. "I have to say you don't look very discouraged."

"Discouraged?" the boy asked with a puzzled look on his face...

"Why should we be discouraged? We haven't been up to bat yet."

Whenever I'm disappointed with my spot in life, I stop and think
About little Jamie Scott.

Jamie was trying out for a part in the school play. His mother told me that he'd set his heart on being in it, though she feared he would not be chosen.

On the day the parts were awarded, I went with her to collect him after school. Jamie rushed up to her, eyes shining with pride and excitement. "Guess what, Mom," he shouted, and then said those words that will remain a lesson to me....."I've been chosen to clap and cheer."

An eye witness account from New York City, on a cold day in December, some years ago: A little boy, about 10-years-old, was standing before a shoe store on the roadway, barefooted, peering through the window, and shivering with cold.

A lady approached the young boy and said, "My, but you're in such deep thought staring in that window!"

"I was asking God to give me a pair of shoes," was the boy's reply

The lady took him by the hand, went into the store, and asked the clerk to get half a dozen pairs of socks for the boy. She then asked if he could give her a basin of water and a towel. He quickly brought them to her.

She took the little fellow to the back part of the store and, removing her gloves, knelt down, washed his little feet, and dried them with the towel.

By this time, the clerk had returned with the socks. Placing a pair upon the boy's feet, she purchased him a pair of shoes.

She tied up the remaining pairs of socks and gave them to him... She patted him on the head and said, "No doubt, you will be more comfortable now."

As she turned to go, the astonished kid caught her by the hand and looking up into her face, with tears in his eyes, asked her.

"Are you God's wife?"



Chaplain's Corner:



Please pray for:

- **Our Servicemen and Women and our Brothers and Sisters in arms** who are being treated / are recovering in military and VA hospitals.
- **Chapter 975 & 785 members and families**



- **Rich Poliska for the Lord's care and healing**
- **David Duggins and his wife and daughters; for the Lords provision, care and healing**



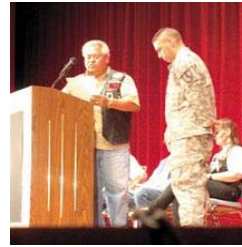
- **Tom Murray for the Lord's care and healing;**



- **Richard Carroll for the Lord's care and healing**



- **Nancy (Friend of Ch 975 member Mark Young)for the Lord's care and healing**



- **Sgt Kenny Bower US Army currently serving in Iraq**



- **PFC Garrett Kelly US Army currently serving in Iraq**



- **SPEC Ryan Smith US Army currently serving in Iraq**

- ***Airman 1st Class Joshua Wages***



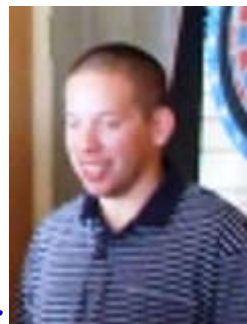
- ***Chief Petty Officer Gil McGillivray,***



- ***Spec Anthony Martinez,***



- ***Airman 1st Class Ralph Lopez;***





- ***Spec Rehta Woelfer;***



- ***Airman Christopher Coyner;***



- ***Airman Scott Weaver;***



- ***USMC Tony and Nicole ;***



- ***PFC Keith Stein;***
- ***Bobby Taylor*** for the Lord's care and healing



- **Katherine Clay** *and family* for the Lord's comfort and care.
- **Rose Anderson** AVVA Member for Lord's care and healing of her daughter and granddaughter
- **Frank Martinez** for the Lord's care and healing



- **Charlie Smith** for the Lord's care and healing and successful knee replacement surgery this week



- **Chap Tom** for the Lord's care and healing

God Bless our "Troops in Harms Way....." and God bless Those brave men and women who gave all.....

Email prayer requests to chaplain@vva975.org and **be sure to indicate if they are confidential** or for public display in the "Chapter 975 Dispatch"



Well that's it for this edition, keep sending pictures and articles for the Dispatch!

Revelation 21

All Things Made New

1

Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. 2 Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. 4 And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away." NKJV
Lord Bless and keep you and yours until we meet again!

Tom Hanlon

Chaplain

Mohave County Chapter 975

Vietnam Veterans of America

www.vva975.org

chaplain@vva975.org