

Edgar Ellis Foshee, SOA #1601, passed away on June 17, 2018.

William L. Kendall, SOA #1354, passed away on June 9, 2018.

Serafin Telles Jr., SOA #3139, passed away on May 30, 2018.

Thomas P. Skaug, SOA #2137, passed away on April 26, 2018.

Charles L. Petry, SOA #1738, passed away on April 19, 2018.

David P. Keating, SOA #1761, passed away on April 13, 2018.

Andre St. Laurent, SOA #2000, passed away on April 8, 2018.

Lloyd G. O'Daniel, SOA #1469, passed away on March 22, 2018.

Arvin M. Briscoe, SOA #2452, passed away on March 21, 2018.

Jose E. Vasquez, SOA #173, passed away on March 17, 2018.

Dicky D. Pirtle, SOA #2962, passed away on March 9, 2018.

Vaughn R. Ross, SOA #1101, passed away on March 5, 2018.

Jerry R. Pond, SOA #2090, passed away on March 1, 2018.

Walter J. Martin, SOA #2374, passed away on February 25, 2018.

William C. Roderick, SOA #1064, passed away on January 14, 2018.

Andrew L. Irzyk, SOA #101, passed away on January 12, 2018.

George Gaspard, SOA #350, passed away on January 3, 2018.

Edward P. Roscoe, SOA #2741, passed away on December 10, 2017.

Lance E. Trimmer, SOA #117, passed away on November 29, 2017.

Gary M. Betterton, SOA #2409, passed away on November 26, 2017.

John C. Fernandez, SOA #263, passed away on November 23, 2017.

John R. McClaskey, SOA #621, passed away on November 9, 2017.

William T. Browder, SOA #645, passed away on November 8, 2017.

Daniel P. Cook, SOA #2554, passed away on November 5, 2017.

Ray Dawson, SOA #657, passed away on October 30, 2017.

Andrew S. Alexander, SOA #222, passed away on September 12, 2017.

Clay A. Curtis, SOA #2952, passed away on September 2, 2017.

Joseph M. Conlon, SOA #1833, passed away on August 20, 2017.

William P. Radtke, SOA #1450, passed away on August 16, 2017.

Anthony C. Dorff, SOA #1553, passed away on July 27, 2017.

Hiep C. Nguyen, SOA #2094, passed away on July 8, 2017.

Na Nguyen, SOA #2169, passed away on June 13, 2017.

Samuel Wilson, SOA #130, passed away on June 10, 2017.

Charles R. Moore, SOA #2808, passed away on June 3, 2017.

Walter M. Hetzler, SOA #2816, passed away on June 2, 2017.

Neal Y. Pickett, SOA #1508, passed away on May 30, 2017.

Norton A. Newcomb, SOA #570, passed away on April 4, 2017.

James A. Craig, SOA #2572, passed away in April, 2017.

Bennett L. Blankenship, SOA #784, passed away on March 30, 2017.

Edward Gammons, SOA #1251, passed away on March 20, 2017.

Ronald W. Lauck, SOA #2650, passed away on March, 8, 2017.

Walter L. Jr. Yost, SOA #2081, passed away on March 8, 2017.

Joseph Richard Kerwin Sr, SOA #1297, passed away on March 6, 2017.

William M. Gow, SOA #955, passed away on March 5, 2017.

Melvin G. Swanson, SOA #3161, passed away on March 3, 2017.

Rick Hinkel, SOA #1670, passed away on March 3, 2017.

Bob L. Nissley, SOA #359, passed away on February 22, 2017.

Fred C. Wunderlich, SOA #89, passed away on February 21, 2017.

Edward D. Morse, SOA #2120, passed away on February 17, 2017.

Anthony C. Anderson, SOA #3253, passed away on February 2, 2017.

George A. Paccereilli, SOA #208, passed away on January 24, 2017.

Robert J. Gullett, SOA #2526, passed away on January 22, 2017.

Keith R. Tack, SOA #1959, passed away on January 17, 2017.

Donald M. Cobb, SOA #12, passed away on December 28, 2016.

John "Scotty" Crear, SOA #681, passed away on December 1, 2016.

Thomas Marshall Carlin, SOA #606, passed away on December 1, 2016, at the age of 65. He was born on July 17, 1951 in San Diego, California to Maurice and Victoria Lauer Carlin. Thomas was a graduate of Oregon State University. He also held master's degrees in both International Relations and Security Management. He served 27 years in the US Army, retiring with the rank of Colonel. He commanded 5th Group, Special Forces at Ft. Campbell. His special operations career included over 14 years in 1st Special Forces Detachment-D, tours in JSOC and USSOCOM. His civilian career involved several professional positions to include vice president of operations for Emirates Palomar in Abu Dhabi. He enjoyed gardening, fishing and hunting but most of all time with family and friends. He is survived by his wife of 38 years, Mollie Sue (Burton) Carlin

Lieu Quang Nghia, SOA #66, passed away November 24, 2016. Having served as the Vietnamese counterpart to COL Isler, Colonel Nghia had a distinguished military career. In 1955 he graduated from Infantry Officer Training Academy, and until 1968 served in various assignments with the South Vietnamese Airborne Division, culminating as G3 Operations Officer. After brief duty as Commanding Officer of the Liaison Services Special Operations ARVN, COL Nghia became the CO of the ARVN Rangers in IV Corps. His final assignment in Vietnam was a Province Chief of Soc Trang Province. At his US naturalization he assumed the name Dominique Quang Lieu.

Charles A. Aycock, SOA #2399, passed away on October 24, 2016.

Robert (Bob) Burton, SOA #57, passed away peacefully on September 22, 2016 in Santa Barbara; surrounded by loving family and many incredible friends. He was 78. Bob will always be remembered for his patriotism, razor-sharp wit, love of life, sense of adventure, compassion, generosity and love of animals. He was born in New York City on August 9, 1938 to Helen and Linwood Burton. Bob's early life was largely shaped by his two parents, WWII and a patriotic sense of duty. In 1956, Bob relocated to Santa Barbara with his mother and younger siblings. After serving in the U.S. Marines in the

early 60's, Bob returned to Santa Barbara. Following an unsuccessful bid for Santa Barbara City Council, Bob invested much of his time in his insurance business; until his love for adventure won him over and he decided to pursue his passion for the bail enforcement ("bounty hunting") profession. During this time, Bob worked tirelessly to change the public perception of Bounty Hunters from "lawless thugs" to disciplined professionals, by establishing the National Association of Bail Enforcement Agents (NABEA). Through this organization, Bob established industry "best practices", professional training and certifications, which elevated the public and media perception of Bail Enforcement Agents worldwide. Bob's unique blend of quick wit, public presence and ability to communicate across all demographics, led to national and international media engagements. His appearances on 60 minutes, 20/20, Fox News, Larry King, ABC News and many international TV outlets further propelled the Bounty Hunting profession; ultimately paving the way for a new generation of Bounty Hunters and reality TV shows. After establishing himself as the world's foremost authority on Bounty Hunting, Bob transitioned from Bounty Hunting to international child abduction cases until his retirement in 2012.

James (Jim) T. Taylor, SOA #1757, made his final jump into the arms of his Savior on September 12, 2016. He was 80. Jim was born July 6, 1936 in Coatesville, PA. He graduated from Scott High School and Penn State University with a degree in Accounting. He spent 4 years in the US Navy before transferring to the Army. During his time in the Army, Jim rose through the ranks to E7 while serving with the US Army Special Forces. He was selected for Officer Candidate School and upon graduation was honored with the distinction of being named the "Leadership Graduate" of his class. During his military career Jim completed 3 tours of duty in Vietnam, two with Special Forces and one with the 173d Airborne Brigade. His many awards include the Distinguished Service Cross, two Bronze Stars, two Purple Hearts, Meritorious Service Medal, Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry, Senior Parachute Wings, Vietnamese Parachute Wings, and the British Parachute Wings. Jim retired with the rank of Major, and was inducted into the Army's Infantry Hall of Fame at Fort Benning, Georgia, in 2013. He held memberships in the Legion of Valor, the 82d Airborne Association, Special Forces Association, Special Operations Association and, his favorite, The Green Beret Lunch Bunch.

Joel R. Schenkelberger, SOA #2078, passed away on September 11, 2016.

Tyler Furbish, SOA #1607, aged 68, passed into eternal life on 20 August, 2016, after a prolonged battle with pancreatic cancer. A long time and active member of the SOA, Ty worked on the Bylaws committee, Membership Committee and as SOA Secretary before taking on the duties of Vice President, the position he had at the time of his passing. Ty also served his City of Cocoa, FL as a City Councilman where he was well known for his support of the police and fire departments. He was instrumental in his city's designation of "Super Hero" parking spaces for veterans and first responders. In

Vietnam Tyler served with the 195th Assault Helicopter Company and continued to maintain close relations with many of his old mates.

Kenneth C. Gardner, Sr., SOA #2381, age 73, of Port Orange, died Tuesday, August 9, 2016. Mr. Gardner was born in Baxley, GA and after high school, Kenny joined the US Army and served for over 20 years. His service included multiple tours in Vietnam, and he was the recipient of the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Combat Infantryman Badge, Master Parachutist Badge, and numerous other personal and unit awards. He will forever be remembered as the "19 year old Airborne Soldier", that he called himself until the end. After retiring from the military in 1981, Kenneth came to this area, and began working as a letter carrier for the US Postal Service. Mr. Gardner's affiliations reflected his patriotism, as he was a lifetime member and honor guard at the VFW, Post 3282; a member of the Special Forces Association, Chapter 21; and the American Legion, Post 1590, in Port Orange. Survivors include three daughters, Marion Gardner (Donald Clark) of Port Orange, Kenly (James) Zanakos of Port Orange, and Gwendolyn (Joe) Voorhees of Orlando; two sons, Kenneth C. (Cathy) Gardner, Jr. of Falls Church, Virginia and Joseph Vernon Gardner of Port Orange; ten grandchildren, Albert, Nick, Christina, Joshua, Blake, Mari, Brayden, Emi, Brynn, and Jake; one great-grandchild, Faith; and two brothers, Joseph (Joann) Gardner of Flagler Beach and Butch (Janet) Gardner of Port Orange. He is preceded in death by his wife of 44 years, Hildegard; and son, John Dale Gardner.

Robert F. Williams, SOA #3237, passed away on July 28, 2016.

Cecil E. Carle, SOA #1685, passed away on Sunday, July 17, 2016. Cecil was a resident of Demopolis, Alabama at the time of his passing. He was married to Judi Hannah Carle.

Allen R. Bodkin, SOA #996, 75, of Iberia, passed away on Friday, July 15, 2016, at Lake Regional Health System in Osage Beach. He was born in Maquoketa, Iowa on January 30, 1941, son of the late Ralph Bodkin and Audrey LaVonne Clark. On December 23, 1967, in Louiseberg, PA, Allen married Pauline Melinz, who survives at the home. Allen was a Vietnam Veteran who served as Sergeant First Class in the United States Army for 20 years. During his time in service he was stationed in Korea and Germany where he was part of the Special Forces Green Beret as a paratrooper and was awarded a Bronze Star. After his military career he worked for Missouri Department of Natural Resources and later for Missouri Department of Corrections. He was a life member of the Elks at Lake Ozark, life member of the Crocker VFW, St. Robert American Legion, S.O.A, and the Legion Riders. Allen attended St. Cornelius Catholic Church in Crocker. In addition to his loving wife, Pauline, he is also survived by three daughters, Jacquie Crosthwait and husband David of Iberia, Trish Whittle of Osage Beach, and Rhonda Perryman and husband Bruce of Springfield; nine grandchildren, Ashlei Williams, Savannah Boyd and husband Mike, Caitlyn Wilcox and husband Kenny, Alex Smith, Brittany Whittle, Kyle Whittle, Mark Crosthwait and wife Alisha, Kay Crosthwait, and Kristin Crosthwait; 11 great-grandchildren, Christopher, Isaac, Elijah, Jackson, Destini, Brooklyn, Madison, Alivia, Damion, Brandon, and

Accaila; two sisters, Judy Koontz and Donna Koontz both of Iowa; two nephews, Brent Bodkin and Jake Bodkin of Iowa; and one niece, Brenda Bodkin of Iowa; two cousins, Dick Mosher & Marvin Heister; and numerous relatives and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, step-father, Al, and two brothers, Jerry and Dennis Bodkin.

Richard M. "Dick" Crawford, SOA #2596, ran his last cross-border operation on 3 July 2016. He passed away after years of fighting at the age of 75. Dick is survived by his sister in Florida and his beloved dogs Ushi and Bella. Richard spent his last years passionately working to recover lost and missing Special Forces medals and awards for his brothers. He gained more awareness than any single person in US history for a single unit by recovering over 50 Valor Medals and Awards for his brothers of MACV-SOG including a DSC. He worked relentlessly knowing he had little time left, and dedicated his few remaining years to this cause.

Thomas Henry, SOA #993, 89, passed away on June 29, 2016. He served his country during three wars -- World War II, Korea and Vietnam -- and as an Army Ranger and in Special Forces operations, was laid to rest on July 28 at Riverside National Cemetery. He died peacefully at his home in Palm Springs on June 29, is credited with co-founding Delta Force, an elite Army unit used for hostage rescue and terrorism response. Its counterpart is the U.S. Naval Special Warfare Development Group, often referred to as SEAL Team Six. These two groups are the U.S. military's premier counterterrorism units. According to historical reports, in late August 1976, a conference was conducted at the Army Infantry School at Fort Benning, Georgia, to examine the role of the light infantry division. During this conference, it was suggested the Army should organize a unit similar to the British Special Air Service. That formed in 1941 to engage in covert reconnaissance, counterterrorism, direct action, hostage rescue and human intelligence gathering. Col. Charlie Beckwith, commandant of the Special Forces School, and Col. Henry were assigned the task of developing this special force. During the many months of development, Col. Beckwith suggested the name of Delta, which was approved. On Nov. 19, 1977, Delta Force was activated. Henry, a 33-year Army veteran, was an enlisted man during World War II, where he served in the Pacific Theater of Operations. He was discharged in 1946 with the rank of Tech Sergeant. In 1948, while serving in the reserves, he was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant. He graduated from the University of Texas in 1949 and in 1950, while working on his graduate degree in geology, and was recalled to active duty during the Korean War. During the Vietnam War, in which he served two tours of duty, he was awarded a Bronze Star Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster. He served as a member of the Army Special Forces, senior advisor to the U.S. Army's Vietnam Ranger command and planning officer with the U.S. Strike Command at MacDill Air Force Base in Tampa, Florida. He subsequently served in Laos, Iran, Germany, the Republic of Congo and Ethiopia. While serving as the Senior U.S. Army Advisor to the Imperial Iranian Ground forces, he and his wife were the target of a Communist terrorists briefcase bomb attempt. This incident sparked his interest in terrorist operations, culminating in his work establishing Delta Force as the primary U.S. Army antiterrorist unit. His stateside assignments included three years in the Pentagon, Commander of an 82nd Airborne Division, Airborne Battalion and Brigade and operations officer of the U.S. Army Ranger department. He

served as a technical advisor on the 1968 John Wayne movie, "Green Beret," and in December 1972 served as an Honor Guard at President Harry Truman's funeral. His decorations include the Legion of Merit (with cluster), Air Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Vietnam Honor Medal and several campaign service medals. He was a qualified U.S. Army Ranger, Special Forces officer and Master Parachutist. Henry has his name engraved on the Special Operations Legacy Wall at the Special Operations Command Center at MacDill AFB.

Palm Springs years

Henry, who retired from active duty in June 1978, moved to Palm Springs with wife Ruth "Ruthie" Henry in 1979. Ruthie died in 2000 at the age of 75. During his retirement years, he was the co-owner of a real estate company, campaign manager for two congressional candidates and chairman of the Riverside County Veteran's Advisory Committee. He also served on the Congressional Service Academy Selection Committee and enjoyed being a member of the guest speaker program for the Palm Springs Air Museum. "Col. Henry was the epitome of what we expect in our soldiers," said Fred Bell, Palm Springs Air Museum managing director. "He believed in the cause of freedom and was prepared to make any sacrifice to defend it. His iron will and determination to persevere in the face of the enemy saved many lives. The colonel's passing is a loss for our nation as very few travel his path in life. God bless him and his family." On June 24, 2015, Henry was inducted into the Rangers Hall of Fame. Among his fellow inductees in that class of 2015 was Gen. Stanley McChrystal, who served as Commander U.S. and NATO Coalition Forces in Afghanistan. The engraved, bronze medallion presented to the inductees signifies "selfless service, excellence and remarkable accomplishment in the defense of the nation and to the highest ideals of service." He received numerous local accolades, too, including the "David Goldware Friend of the Veteran Award" from the Riverside County Board of Supervisors for his work helping veterans in Riverside County (2008). On November 13, 2011, Henry was honored with the 337th Golden Palm Star on the Palm Springs Walk of Stars. His star, set into the sidewalk at La Plaza, is across the street from Sonny Bono's statue. Henry worked with then-Congressman Sonny Bono and, later, then-Congresswoman Mary Bono on numerous veteran's affairs issues. "Colonel Henry was a tireless and devoted champion for other veterans," Bono wrote in an email to The Desert Sun. "He helped with both the VA clinic in Blythe as well as Palm Desert. If there was an issue anywhere, Tom was on top of it vigorously. He was also a key part of all of my campaigns especially in the beginning when Tom invited Medal of Honor Recipients Lew Millet, Mitch Paige and Bob Bush to a meeting with me so they would get involved. He was like that — using every tool he could to rally for a cause he believed in. Colonel Henry was a true patriot in every sense of the word and he was also a very kind man, quick with a smile. His advice and counsel on matters of national security was something I always looked to him for. I will miss him dearly."

Glenn M. Uemura, SOA #1767, passed away on passed away on June 15, 2016.

Robert Phillip Whitis Sr., SOA #2966, 79, of Indianapolis, died on June 12, 2016. He was born December 25, 1936 in Indianapolis to William H. and Bertha L. Ellis Whitis. Robert served in the U.S. Army and proudly wore the Green Beret, and was then an

insurance agent for Western Southern Insurance. He was a member of DVA, Greenwood VFW #5864, and Masonic Lodge Calvin Prather #717, and the Special Operations Association. Robert is survived by his wife Phyllis Grant Whitis, 6 children, 4 step children, brother William H. Whitis, 27 grandchildren and 16 great grandchildren.

Charles W. “Charlie” Barksdale, SOA #122, passed away peacefully on June 2, 2016, at the age of 83. Charles was born in Mitchell, GA August 16, 1932, and was raised on a farm in Milledgeville, GA. As a child, Charlie learned many survival skills, which influenced him to join the Army, which he entered in 1950 and served with distinction over 24 years. He was always known to give a hearty salute to his fellow servicemen along with the familiar “Airborne...All the way”! Charlie always looked for challenges and volunteered to test a new infiltration technique known as HALO (high altitude low opening). After earning his parachutist badge and Ranger Tab, Charlie successfully completed Special Forces training, earning his Green Beret with MOS 18B Weapons Sergeant. Charlie served in Vietnam, where he received a Purple Heart. His other awards and decorations include the National Defense Service Medal (1st Oak Leaf Cluster), Master Parachutist Badge, Combat Infantryman Badge, Vietnam Service Medal, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with 60 Device, Bronze Star Medal with V Device, Air Medal, Presidential Unit Citation, Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm, Meritorious Unit Commendation, Republic of Vietnam Civil Action Medal 1st Class, Army of Occupation Medal (Germany), and Good Conduct Medal (6 Awards). After retiring as a MSG, Charlie was best known for his love of fishing, guitar playing, skills with the bar-b-que grill, and enjoying time with his friends at the ‘V’! Everyone around Charlie also knew of his passion for skydiving. He loved the thrill that going “Airborne” supplied. He went skydiving at every opportunity. Charlie was ‘at home’ in the sky and the expressions caught on camera as he made tandem jumps, show the true joy of his “Airborne” experience. Charlie made his last jump when he was 82 years old!

Jerome “Jerry” Ledzinski, SOA #3128, 72, of Weirton, WV went to be with the Lord very peacefully on Monday May 9, 2016 at home in West Virginia. Jerry was born July 1, 1943 in Benwood, WV to parents who were first-generation Americans of Polish decent. He attended Linsly High School (a military prep school) in Wheeling, WV and was an Eagle Scout. He went on to graduate from the United States Military Academy (West Point) in 1965. After graduation and commissioning as an officer in the US Army, Jerry attended several specialty schools: infantry officer, ranger, Special Forces, airborne, scuba and foreign language (Vietnamese and Portuguese). Subsequently, from 1967-1969, he completed four combat tours in Vietnam/Southeast Asia from 1967 thru 1969 with the 5th Special Forces and MACV/SOG. In July 1967 he married Ms. Martina Mankowski of Weirton, WV. Jerry left military service in February 1970 to commence his civilian business career in the financial services industry on the Monetary Peninsula and in October 1999, he turned his expertise and passion towards his final act: building an independent private global investment management firm, Centurion

Alliance. He is survived by his wife Martina (Mankowski) sons Jerry II, Justin, and grandsons Adam and Taylor.

Alfred G. 'Fred' Platt, SOA #825, flew Heavenwards on 15 April 2016, at the age of 75. A 1958 graduate of San Jacinto High School, Platt graduated from The University of Texas in 1963 and went directly into Air Force Officer Candidate School. He was scheduled to go to pilot's school, but not enough slots were open at that time, so he was sent to traffic control. He earned his wings and was commissioned on his birthday, 4 February 1964. (He was born in Houston on Feb. 4, 1941.) Coincidentally, the first time he was shot down in Southeast Asia was on Feb. 4, 1969, and on another Feb. 4 – in 1972 – he was retired from the military. While stationed in Arkansas, flying B-52s, Platt was good enough to be assigned to the newer models, but wasn't allowed to fly the combat missions. Since he had his mind set to take part in combat airstrikes in Southeast Asia, he volunteered to go to Vietnam as a Forward Air Controller. It took him only 10 days to complete the six-month course and he went directly from flying the B-52s to flying the O-1s. Shot down 10 times, Platt was rescued from behind enemy lines three times. It was the final crash landing that left him paralyzed from the neck down, followed by a long and painful recovery. Many knew Fred as Raven 47. Fred's notable contributions to the Secret War are documented in many online articles and videos including: Ravens Part 1 and Ravens of Long Tieng. He was a member of CIA, SOG and flew as a RAVEN or Air Controller for aviation missions in Laos. During his service, Fred was awarded the Silver Star, three Purple Hearts, three DFC's and 48 other decorations. For many years Fred was very actively involved with American Legion China Post #1, during most of which he was the Commander. He was also a member of the Air America Association as well as the Special Operations Association. Fred is survived by a brother, a sister, several nieces and nephews and many Brothers in Arms.

Ramon C. "Ray" Calafell, Jr., SOA #2878, 66, passed away Friday April 1, 2016 after a brief illness. Ray was born in Havana Cuba May 19, 1949. His family moved to the United States in the mid-1950's and eventually settled in Tampa. He graduated from Plant High School in 1967, received his B.A. from the University of South Florida in 1974 and his J.D. from the University of Miami in 1977. Ray was a Board Certified Trial Lawyer and practiced law in Tampa for 39 years. He began his law career practicing law as a plaintiff's attorney. In 1979 he joined a nationally-respected litigation firm in 1979 and remained with them as their Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act specialist and jury trial counsel for nine years. Opening his own firm in 1988, he remained a specialist in Longshore Act cases. He authored several scholarly articles on the Longshore Act and lectured on the subject. Ray is a wounded combat veteran of the Vietnam War, having served as an infantryman with the 196th Light Infantry Brigade (B Company, 4th Battalion - 31st Infantry Regiment), and with Special Operations (SOG). He is a Life Member of the Special Forces Association; Former Secretary of Command

Chapter LX of the SFA (2001-2009); Member of the Special Operations Association, recipient of the SOA's President's award and was Chairman of the Membership Committee. He was also a member of the OSS Society and a member of the Association of Former Intelligence Officers. He received many military awards and decorations including the Combat Infantryman's Badge, Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Air Medal, Army Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, National Defense Service Medal, Presidential Unit Citation for service with the 196th Light Infantry Brigade and Expert Marksmanship Badge (M-14 and M-16 rifles). Ray will be missed by his family and many friends around the world. He is survived by his loving wife of 48 years, Pat; his daughter, Patsy (Tim) Rey; his grandson, Matthew, and his sister, Olga Tumey

Harlan "Sandy" Sandell, SOA #1680, passed away after a long illness on 24 February, 2016. He was residing in Chaing Mai, Thailand. Sandy attended Training Group in 1968 and was first assigned to the 7th Special Forces Group as a Combat Engineer Sergeant. He also attended Operations and Intelligence School at Ft. Hollibird, MD. He went to Vietnam that same year assigned to the 5th SFG until February, 1969 when he volunteered for MACV SOG CCS and was the One-Zero of RT Fork. He also was assigned to the One-Zero School at Long Thanh as an instructor. For his time in Vietnam he earned a Bronze Star w/V, Air Medal and a Combat Infantryman's Badge. Sandy left active duty and became an Emergency Medical Technician. He joined the 12th SFG (Reserve) while living in Kansas and became an A-Team Medic. Sandy had earned 2 Master's degrees and served as a professor of Missions. He moved with his family to Thailand over 30 years ago to work as a missionary with the Lahu Hill tribes. He was much respected among the Lahu tribes in Burma and Southern China for his work among them. He was a co-founder of World Aid, a non-profit agency doing medical work in Laos and Burma. He was a member of the Special Forces Association Chapter 3 in Thailand. Sandy will be missed by the tribes' people he helped, his SOG comrades and loving family and friends.

John A. Agnew, SOA #161, passed away on February 20, 2016, at the age of 72. A life-long resident of Royal Oak, Michigan, John attended grade school and high school at St. Mary's in Royal Oak, graduating in 1961. He was drafted and served our country in the United States Army from 1964 through 1966. While in the Army, he earned several decorations including the Army Air Medal for bravery during his service in the Vietnam War. He was a life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Special Operations Association, and supported many other veterans' organizations including the Disabled American Veterans. He received a B.S. degree in Finance from the University of Detroit where, in 1976, he earned a Juris Doctor degree. He served for several years as an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney in Oakland County, Michigan followed by many years in private law practice. John was a good friend to many and leaves behind many people whose lives were positively affected by his friendship and enduring spirit. John was the devoted son of the late John R. and the late Kathryn D. Agnew. He is survived by his first cousins, Catherine (Sekora) DeHorn of Troy, Michigan, Sandra Sekora, of Berkley, Michigan, and Georgine (Bugor) Berridge of Plymouth, Massachusetts.

Frederick Albert Crane, SOA #1199, MSG (Ret), 74, died on Saturday, February 20, 2016. Fred served his country proudly for 26 years from August 28, 1958 to September 30, 1984. He was a Vietnam veteran who served with MACV-SOG, 5th Special Forces Group. During his time in Vietnam, he was a member of FOB2 RT COLORADO 1-1 from September 2, 1967 to October 1, 1967, a member of RT HAWAII 1-1 from October 1, 1967 to February 1, 1968 and a member of RT HAWAII 1-0 from February 1, 1968 to March 1, 1968. He was awarded various medals to include the Bronze Star and Air Medal during his tour in Vietnam. He was a member of various organizations to include the Special Operations Association (SOA), Big Red One, 8th ID, 3rd AD, 16th ID, 197th ID, and 36th ID. He served four tours in USAEUR, one in Korea and Vietnam, and various CONUSA tours. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Jeanette H. Crane and daughter, Angela M. Crane of Jacksonville; his son Michael A. (Barbara) Crane of Keller, TX; two grandchildren, Shayla (Mark) Christian of McKinney, TX and Sean Crane (girlfriend Emily Noble) of Dallas, TX; one step-granddaughter, Claire Christian of McKinney, TX; and one sister Roberta Robbins of Perris, CA.

William Robert "Bill" Pomeroy, SOA #2512, age 69, passed away Feb 15, 2016. He was retired from Social Security with over 10 years of service and also served as a chaplain with the 20th Special Forces Army Reserve. He served in the Vietnam War as a Green Beret with Detachment B-52, Project Delta, from late 1968 until 1970 and was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for Valor and the Purple Heart Medal for wounds received in close combat with the enemy. He was a member of Rock Mountain Lake Baptist Church and was preceded in death by his parents, Robert and Jean Pomeroy and his sister, Linda Pomeroy Pankratz. He is survived by his son, Will Pomeroy; brother, Andy Pomeroy and two nieces, Mary P. Mitchell (Steve) and Elizabeth P. Crump (Jason). Memorial service will be on Sunday, February 28, 2016 at 2:00 PM at Rock Mountain Lakes Baptist Church. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service. Interment services will be on Monday, February 29, 2016 at 10:15 AM at Alabama National Cemetery in Montevallo, Alabama.

Edward R. Lesesne, SOA #614, age 75, passed away on 12 February 2016. He was born on May 3, 1940, in Lima, Peru, to the late Col. Charles Haynesworth Jr. and Margaret Elizabeth (Rutledge) Lesesne. A proud military veteran, he served in the Marine Corps Reserves from 1957 to 1959 before entering active duty. He volunteered for duty in the U.S. Army Special Forces, including commanding Recon Company CCC, and served his country honorably for more than 25 years, retiring as LTC. For his exemplary courage and strength of will Ed was awarded two silver stars, five bronze stars, three purple hearts and many other awards and decorations. Edward is survived by his daughters, Cynthia Dana (Guy), Sandra Collins (David); a son, Edward Rutledge Lesesne, Jr.; six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. He also leaves behind his brother, Charles H. Lesesne III, and many nieces and nephews.

Lyle Rex Hill, SOA #1675, passed away 12 February 2016 at the age of 72. Lyle was born in Osceola, Iowa on 30 November 1943. His parents, Ray Oneal Hill and Marjorie Marie Vaughn Hill, owned and operated a large farm on which Rex worked during his

teenage years. After graduating from high school, Rex attended Iowa State University where he studied architecture for two years. On April 5, 1965, Rex was drafted into the U.S. Army. Rex qualified for Officers Candidate School and attained the rank of Second Lieutenant. He continued through airborne training and fixed-wing flight school then served two terms in Viet Nam as a forward air controller attached to Special Forces with the rank of captain. His friends and Army buddies knew him as SPAF 1. After serving in the army for seven years, Rex was discharged at Fort Stewart, Ga. and took a job on a construction crew building what is now the Georgia-Pacific sawmill in Claxton. He quickly rose in the organization and became the plant manager. He worked for Georgia-Pacific for 28 years. It was while Rex was working at Georgia-Pacific he realized his need for Christ. Rex served in several capacities at Eastside Baptist Church in Claxton including Sunday School director, Sunday School teacher, and director of the Brotherhood. He was active in the Georgia State Baptist Brotherhood program where he served for several years as the state coordinator for lay-led revivals, directing and leading many services himself. In addition, Rex served with the local chapter of the Gideons for several years. Rex was often called on to fill in for the pastor in his absence. He was an active lay speaker until he suffered a debilitating stroke in December 1996. In August 2004, Rex was chosen to serve as deacon for Scott Blvd. Baptist Church in Decatur, Ga. and was a member of Friendship Baptist Church in Statesboro, at the time of his passing. Rex is survived by his wife of 19 years, Deborah Timmons Hill of Glendora, Calif.; four children: Larry Hill of Claxton, Melissa Hill Sands and her husband, Tracy of Glennville.

Charles L. Gray, SOA #2494, 1SGT (Ret), passed away on January 28, 2016. He was a member of Chapter 1-18, Special Forces Association, and the Special Operations Association . Charles served with MACV-SOG in CCN.

Tho Phung Nguyen, SOA #2999, passed away January 21, 2016.

Stephanie Czech Rader, SOA #3241-HL, passed away at age 100, on 21 January 2016. She was born to Polish immigrants in Poughkeepsie, New York on 15 May 1916, and was raised only knowing the Polish language and culture. School was rough because at first she did not speak English well, but soon mastered it and continued on to earn a full scholarship to Cornell University where she completed a chemistry degree in 1937. Stephanie joined the Women's Army Corps towards the end of World War II and was soon selected for service in the Office of Strategic Services due to her knowledge of Polish culture. She was one of two OSS agents working out of the U.S. Embassy in Warsaw and traveled the country under the guise of finding family members in the aftermath of World War II. This allowed her to acquire intelligence on Russian troop movements and socio-economic information unobtainable by Embassy officials. She was, by all definitions, a spy. She knew that if she were captured, she would

disappear. Only very late in her life did her friends and neighbors realize that she was one of the most successful intelligence agents of post-war Poland. In recent years, her friends and neighbors, together with the Office of Strategic Services Society, have championed on her behalf for her to be awarded the Legion of Merit. Her superior officers had recommended her for this award in 1946 but the request was turned down by the War Department for unknown reasons.

Michael Joseph Bingo Jr., SOA #3186, entered into eternal life on January 16, 2016. He died suddenly of a Heart Attack while visiting a SOA member friend in San Diego. Mike grew up in Brooklyn and joined the Army shortly after completing HS. He rose from Private to Sergeant Major prior to his retirement in 1995. For most of those 32 years he was able to remain in Special Forces, including fifteen years in Asia and Europe. From 1969 to 1972 he was on the Resident Detachment from the 1st SFG stationed on Taiwan. He is survived by his wife Kim, who lives in Colorado.

Robert W. "Hoser" Hall, SOA #3074, Master Sergeant, USAF (Ret), age 67, of Belleville, IL, passed away Friday, January 15, 2016 at St. Elizabeth's Hospital, Belleville, IL. Bob served three tours of duty in Viet Nam with the 20th Special Operations Squadron, "Green Hornets," during his Air Force career and received a purple heart as well as numerous other medals of honor. During his time with the Green Hornets Hoser supported MACVSOG CCS where he was highly respected and was well known amongst the 1-0's and other field operators. Following his Air Force Career served with and later retired from civil service at Scott Air Force Base. Bob was a master of all "fix-it" projects. More than anything else, he was a generous and giving man, and above all, a loving husband and father, his wife of 30 years, Vicki L., nee Worley, Hall, whom he married on April 20, 1985; and four children survives Bob, Robert (Winter) Hall of Belleville, IL, Jonathan (Chalis) Hall of Fairview Heights, IL, Katy Hall of Belleville, IL, Shay Hall Rowan of Austin, TX.

William Joseph (Bill) Dadek, SOA #1830, LTC, (USA Ret), 71, of Hope Mills passed away suddenly on Wednesday, December 16, 2015. He was 72. Bill was born in Lyons, GA on Sept. 25, 1944, after WW II his family moved to St. Louis, MO. Bill joined the Army immediately after completing HS. He rose from Private to Staff Sgt and then attended OCS becoming commissioned as a 2LT and rose to LTC prior to his retirement. During his 25 years on active duty Bill served in both Command and Staff assignments from A-team to Battalion Level in Infantry and Special Forces Units. His duty stations included Ft. Gordon, Korea, Ft. Bragg, Ft. Bliss, Viet Nam, Ft. Hood, Ft. Benning, Ft. Campbell, Germany, and Ft. Indiantown Gap. Additionally, during this same time he earned both Associate and Bachelor degrees from the Regents of the State of New York, and a Master's degree from Western Kentucky University in Public Service. After retirement from the Army Bill earned a Doctorate from NOVA Southeastern University in Public Administration. He received a Teaching Certificate from the State of Pennsylvania where he taught in both public and private schools. Bill held a second-degree black belt in Tae Kwon Do and served as the State Vice-President of the Pennsylvania Tae Kwon Do Association. He was a life member of the Special Forces Association and Special Operations Association and the American

Motorcyclist Association. LTC Dadek also served on the boards of two chapters of the Military Officers Association of America as well as ROTC Coordinator Committee Chair. His military awards include the Bronze Star, Air Medal, and various other service and campaign medals. He has several unit citations including a Presidential Unit Citation for Service in MACV-SOG. He also was awarded the Combat Infantry Badge, the Parachute and Air Assault badges and the Special Forces Tab. Bill is survived by his high school sweetheart, Maureen Yount Dadek; his son, Joseph William Dadek, and daughter, Susan Elizabeth Dadek of Charlotte NC and four grandchildren. The SOA will miss Bill for his great smile, countless volunteer hours and positive attitude demonstrated during more SOAR's than most of us can count. RIP Bill.

Lloyd E. Bylund, SOA #546, passed away on December 15, 2015.

Bernard W. Newman, SOA #2017, MSG, USA (Ret), died on November 29th, 2015. Born in Massachusetts on December 15, 1932, MSG Newman attended school in New Haven, Connecticut and entered Military service in 1950. Sergeant Newman served with B-36, Project Rapid Fire and as the Team Sergeant on A-361. He retired from military service in 1972 and attended Rollins College, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts Degree. Amongst his many Military Awards Bernie is the recipient of the Combat Infantry Badge, Master Parachutist Badge, Silver Star, First Oak Leaf Cluster; Bronze Star 'V,' First Silver Cluster, Army Commendation 'V,' First Silver Cluster, Two Oak Leaf Clusters, Purple Heart, Second Oak Leaf Cluster, and the Air Medal, Second Oak Leaf Cluster. A Life member of the SFA, M-3748, as well as the SOA Bernie was well respected and loyal to those he served with and those friends he made along his way and within both associations. All who knew him will miss Bernie.

Eugene Manor, SOA #1892, passed away on November 13, 2015.

Russell Dale Allen, SOA #3019, passed away October 26, 2015. He was born Easter Sunday, April 13, 1941, in Francesville, Indiana to Robert J. and Sue (Wentz) Allen. He married Enid Westphal on August 19, 1960 in Francesville, Ind. Russell spent 22 1/2 years in the U.S. Army, served three tours in Vietnam and worked in operations and intelligence. He was a member of the VFW, Vietnam Vet Association, Special Forces Association Chapter 77, and The Special Operations Association.

Robert "Cotton" Leroy Skeans, SOA #2453, 78, passed away on 10 November 2015, as a result of a car accident. He was born 1 October 1937, in Racine, WI. After graduation he joined the US Army and served two tours in Vietnam. While with Special Forces he was wounded and received a Purple Heart and Bronze Star medals. Upon returning home Robert was involved with the MIA program, and spent many hours at the VA Hospitals in Milwaukee and Union Grove assisting with wounded Vets. He loved participating in Veterans Day parades and in the Honor Guard at memorial services. Cotton was always helping people, especially those less fortunate. He enjoyed riding his Harley in all kinds of weather, with his beloved dog "Bam Bam" on the back. Everyone who knew Robert loved him, and he will be missed by many.

Ramon "Butch" Craig, SOA #453, passed away on 20 October 2015, at the age of 75. Butch was a retired Marine Corps GYSGT who served two tours of duty in Vietnam as a communications specialist/linguist and a proud member of Force Recon. He was awarded three Purple Hearts and a Bronze Star with "V." A graduate of both the University of San Diego and the University Of Alabama, Butch was a strong believer in higher education and helped countless students reach their goals as the former president of Lafayette College in Fayetteville, NC and as a co-owner of Miller-Motte Business College in Wilmington, NC. He was also a proponent of veterans' rights and worked for many years with the National Association of Concerned Veterans (NACV), in addition to membership in the Marine Corps Force Recon Association, Special Operations Association, Disabled American Veterans and a lifetime member of the VFW. But above all else, family was Butch's greatest achievement. He was loved by his wife of 55 years, Sylvia. Their loving relationship taught us respect and caring. Butch was blessed with four daughters who adored him. He left us with no regrets. "I've had a wonderful life," he said.

Earle Leslie Petty, Jr., SOA #159, passed away Sept. 22, 2015. He entered the U.S. Army at age 16 in 1953. During his career, he went to Germany, as well as served three tours of duty in Vietnam and Laos. Earle joined the elite group of Special Forces in 1965. He attended Ranger school and U.S. Navy school. Only 12 Special Forces members were chosen to attend the elite Seal training. Earle also attended Halo training at Ft. Bragg, NC, and graduated in the 82nd Airborne Division. He was stationed both at Ft. Benning, GA, and Ft. Bragg during his Army career. Earle also was deployed to Cuba during the Cuban Crisis. He wore his Green Beret (motto of Special Forces) proudly, his love for his country was beyond first and foremost in his life. Entering the military at such a young age, he later pursued his education and obtained his Bachelors degree. Earle was awarded the Army Commendation Medal, three Purple Hearts due to injuries in Vietnam, three Bronze stars with oak leaf clusters for valor and was also awarded the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry. He served under the Commands of General William Westmoreland and General Yarborough. Earle retired from the Army in September of 1973, being awarded the Meritorious Service Medal. He also attended the U.S. Army Intelligence School at Ft. Holabird, MD. Upon early retirement, he went to work for the Melbourne Police Department under Chief Croton. Upon leaving Melbourne P.D. he went to work for the Brevard County Sheriff's Department under Sheriff Jake Miller, as Jail Commander. Earle left the Sheriff's Department in 1994 to take the Police Chief position in Sebastian, FL. In 1996, he was contacted by the United Nations to head the International Police Task Force in Bosnia. He worked with the state department to assemble a group of 200 police officers from around the world to train Bosnian police officers. In 1993, Earle underwent emergency heart surgery at Holmes Regional Medical Center. One year later, he won several gold medals at the International Law Enforcement Olympics in cycling. He was a very accomplished cyclist. After Earle's return from Bosnia, he went back to Brevard County Sheriff's Office under Sheriff Phil Williams. He stayed on with the Sheriff's Department, retiring as South Precinct Commander in 2005. Earle always said it was an honor and privilege to serve his country and wear the Green Beret. He was a lifetime member of the John Wayne Chapter 21 Special Forces Association of Merritt Island, FL and was also a member of

the Florida Police Chief's Association. Earle was born in Gross Pointe Farms, MI, to Earle & Beverlee Petty on February 13, 1936. He is survived by his wife, Beverly, of 58 years who he loved and respected dearly. He also leaves his sons, Steven (Susan) Petty, Earle L. (Crystell) Petty III, and daughter, Lisa Oas, brother Walter S. (Mary) Petty, II, sisters Tommy Lu Conlogue and Sandra (Dale) Kile. Earle has six grandchildren, Brock, Bailey, Kaytlin, Wyatt, Garrett, and Chelsea, and two great grandchildren, Kirra and Tristan. He is predeceased by his parents, daughter, Leslie Jean Petty, grandmother, Mae Carson Vigneault, and uncle, Francis W. Vigneault. Earle's granddaughter, Bailey Alexander, has made him so proud by obtaining her degree in Psychology at the University of Alabama. He was an avid Bama fan. Funeral Information: Visitation will be Thursday, September 24, 2015 from 5:00 pm until 8:00 pm at Ammen Family Cremation and Funeral Care, 1001 South Hickory Street, Melbourne. His funeral service will be Saturday, September 26, 2015 at 3:00 pm at Holy Trinity Episcopal Academy's Scott Center, 5625 Holy Trinity Drive, Melbourne. Donations Information: In Lieu of flowers please consider donations to Hospice of Health First, 1900 Dairy Road, West Melbourne, 32904.

James Yu-b, SOA #2375, Special Forces, passed away on the 3rd of September 2015 at the Swedish Medical Center in Edmonds, Washington. He had been under the care of Hospice. Yu-B was born on the 1st of January 1952 in South Vietnam. He was a member of the Sedang Group of the Montagnards. His Special Forces Assignments began in 1966 with 5th Special Forces Group. He was assigned to Co B, Hatchet Force. In 1969 he transferred to CCC, MACV-SOG at Kontum and was assigned to RT Vermont. CSM Franklin D Miller was the Team Leader and SSG at the time. Note: CSM Miller was awarded the Medal of Honor for an action RT Vermont had participated in. When MACV-SOG was deactivated, Yu-B was sent to Saigon and worked for the Special Mission Force. With the fall of Saigon he was resettled to Bellevue, Washington, under the auspices of the International Rescue Committee on 30 May 1975. Yu-B was awarded a Certificate of Achievement for Meritorious Service in 1972 from the US Army Vietnam, and the US Army Presidential Unit Citation MACV-SOG 1964 – 1972. He was respected and admired by all that he came in contact with. Yu-B was a proud member of Chapter 43, Special Forces Association. He is survived by his first wife, Thu Ha and three daughters: Anne, Amy and Lan and one son, Thai; and current wife, Duyen Le, and son Chien.

James (Jimmy) Steele, SOA #1867, passed away July 19, 2015 in the Orlando, Florida VA Community Living Center after a long illness. He was born March 26, 1935 on Taboga Island, Republic of Panama. Jimmy served in Korea, 3 tours in Vietnam, and multiple tours throughout Central and South America. He joined the Army in 1953 and trained at Ft. Campbell and Ft. Benning. He was assigned to the 11th Airborne Division at Ft. Campbell, the 187th Airborne Regimental Combat Team in Bappo, Japan, and the 101st Airborne Division at Ft. Campbell. In 1962 he began training with the Green Berets 5th Special Forces Group in Ft. Bragg and served in Vietnam in 1963 and 1964. In 1966 he returned to his home in Panama assigned to the 8th Special Forces Group in Ft. Gulick, Canal Zone, Panama. He taught jungle warfare training and at the School of the Americas. In 1969 Jimmy completed his 3rd tour of Vietnam where he was in the

Special Ops Group/Delta. During his career he was awarded 5 Bronze Stars, the Combat Infantryman's Badge and Master Parachutist Wings. He is survived by his loving family: his wife Shirley, his daughter Suzanne, his granddaughter Erin, his brother Samuel S. Steele, and many loving nieces, nephews, uncles, aunts, and cousins. A Celebration of Life was held at the Stonecrest Community Center on August 10th.

Grant "Bo" Bollenbach SOA #3185, MSG (Ret), passed away on 15 July 2015, at 1402 hrs after a brief struggle with cancer. He died at local hospital in Angeles City, Republic of the Philippines surrounded by family and friends.

Joe Pearce, SOA #1009, passed away June 6, 2015

William Leon Shelton, SOA #890, LTC, USA (Ret), 77, of Las Vegas, Nevada, passed away on May 18, 2015. William was born in Evansville, Indiana to Raymond and Kathren Shelton. William retired from the United States Army. He married his wife Sangchan and they enjoyed 41 years together. They were blessed with two sons Robert and Scott. A Memorial Service will be held on Saturday, May 23, 2015 at 5:00PM at Palm Northwest Mortuary, 6701 N Jones Blvd, Las Vegas, NV 89131.

James M. Buton, SOA #2234, COL, USA (Ret), 70, died on 28 April, 2015, after a long struggle with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), or Lou Gehrig's disease, at a hospice in Savannah, GA. He was a charter member of the Special Forces Branch. He served with the 7th and 5th SFG's commanding at the ODA, Company and Battalion levels. He served in Vietnam as an adviser to the 52nd Vietnamese Ranger Battalion.

Don F. Murphy, SOA #790, 78, of Parklawn Court, Hopkinsville, KY died at 1:12 a.m. Tuesday, April 21, 2015 at St. Thomas Hospital in Nashville of natural causes. Graveside services were held at 10:00 a.m. Friday, April 24, 2015 at Kentucky Veterans Cemetery West and conducted by Rev. Nathan C. Brown. Honorary pallbearers will be Art Garcia, Wendell Green, Gerald Nix, Ron Davidson, Tony Rucci, Judd Haverkost, Joe Carr and Steve Stone. A native of West Chester, Pennsylvania, he was born February 16, 1937 son of the late Clifford W. Murphy and Pauline Huber Murphy. A military retiree, Don was a Vietnam veteran and served with the U.S. Army Special Forces and was awarded the Silver Star. He was retired from Civil Service at Fort Campbell, Kentucky. He was a member of First Christian Church and a former troop leader of Boy Scout Troop 13. He was a life member of the Special Operations Association, the Special Forces Association, the 82nd Airborne Division Association, and V.F.W. Post 1913. Survivors include his wife of 55 years, Linda Ringe Murphy, two sons; Daniel Murphy, Port Royal, TN and Mark Murphy, Hopkinsville, and a sister, Jean Murphy Laughner of Midwest City, OK.

Richard "Jim" Laritz, SOA #1301, 81, passed away on 20 April, 2015, in Boise, ID. Jim enlisted in the Army in 1951 and served in combat in Korea earning several valorous awards. After Korea he volunteered for the newly formed 10th Special Forces Group and served with the 10th and 77th SFG's until 1957. He went to Officer Candidate School in 1959 and returned to the 10th Special Forces Group, Detachment

A, Berlin Brigade. In 1963 he joined the 5th SFG and went to Vietnam until 1966. He served with the JCRC in Thailand from 1970 to 1973. He was an advisor to the 19th SFG in Salt Lake City from 1979 to 1983. He had served 40 years when he retired in 1990. He held numerous awards and decorations including several Purple Hearts. He was awarded the Combat Infantryman's Badge with Star, Ranger Tab and Army Aviator Wings. He retired to Idaho to be closer with his family. He purchased some land on the Snake River where he worked full time building ponds, planting trees and cultivating a beautiful oasis. He is survived by his wife, Kathy; sons, Rick, Brian and Kish; daughters, Kathrin, Patricia and Rochelle. He is also survived by 17 grandchildren.

Robert Jay Tessier, SOA #2983, Born May 2, 1938 in Tacoma and left us unexpectedly on April 8, 2015. Bob grew up in Lakewood, WA, graduating from Clover Park HS. Bob served in the military as a Helicopter Pilot while serving in Vietnam. He loved the Pacific Northwest and had a passion for the outdoors. He was the happiest on the water be it on the ocean, the bay or with his friends trading fishing stories. He will be dearly missed by his wife, Donna; daughter, Diahn; son, Ron; grandchildren, Tafton and Avery; and sister Lynn.

Bill Miller, SOA #1276, passed away in Florida on the morning of March 22, 2015. A burial at Arlington Cemetery is planned but not yet scheduled. More information will be released as it becomes available.

Arthur T. Fields, Jr., SOA #310, CPT, USA (Ret), 83, Passed Away Friday, March 06, 2015 in WJB Veterans Hospital in Columbia, SC. CPT Fields was born in Cumberland County, NC on March 17, 1931 to the late Arthur T. Fields Sr. and Margaret Hickman Fields. He retired from the US Army Special Forces in 1973 and served in the Korean and Vietnam Wars. CPT Fields was a great American and loved the US Army. After Retirement he went to work for the Veterans Administration in Shreveport, LA. He was a member of the VFW, American Legion, Special Forces Association, US Army Association and Officers Club. He loved to work in the yard, gardening and loved Spider Solitaire. CPT Fields will be greatly missed by his family and all who knew him. His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device (2OLC), Purple Heart (2OLC), Air Medal (4th Award), Army Commendation Medal (2OLC), Army Commendation Medal (2OLC), Good Conduct Medal w/5 Bronze Loops, Army of Occupation Medal, National Defense Service Medal (OLC), Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal w/2 Bronze Stars, Vietnam Service Medal, RVN Gallantry Cross w/Palm RVN Campaign Medal, Vietnam Advisory Campaign Ribbon, Vietnam Defense Campaign Ribbon, Vietnam Counteroffensive Campaign Ribbon, Vietnam Staff Service Medal (First Class), Vietnam Medal of Honor for Military Merit (Second Class), RVN Armed Forces Honor Medal (Second Class), Korean Service Medal w/4 Bronze Service Stars, United Nations Service Medal, United Nations Service Medal, Republic of Korea War Service Medal, Army Presidential Unit Citation (2OLC), Army Valorous Citation, Army Meritorious Unit Commendation (OLC), Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation, RVN Presidential Unit Citation, RVN Gallantry Cross w/Palm Unit (2nd Award), RVN Civic Action Honor Medal (First Class), Combat Infantry Badge (2nd Award), Combat Scuba Diver Badge, Master Parachutist Badge, Sharpshooter Badge

w/Pistol Bar, Expert Badge w/Rifle Bar M-1, Expert Badge w/Rifle Bar M-14 and Expert Badge w/Rifle Bar M-16. He is survived by his sons, Randy Fields (Dana) of Swansea, SC and George Michael Fields (Margaret) of Arkansas; 3 grandchildren, Gabriela Fields, Nathan Fields and Arthur Fields III. Graveside Services with Full Military Honors will be 2:00 PM, Thursday, March 12, 2015 at Cumberland Memorial Gardens.

Richard Nelson Rose, SOA #2796, 68, left this world and those who loved him on Tuesday, March 3, 2015. Rick was born on Feb. 4, 1947, in Longview to Dorothy and Marc Rose. He graduated from Copperas Cove High School and attended Tarleton State College before joining the Army in 1966. Rick spent 23 months in Special Forces training prior to active duty in Vietnam. He was awarded the Bronze Star with Valor for meritorious service in a combat zone. Throughout his many walks of life, he developed innumerable friendships, in fact, Rick never met a stranger. After discharge from the Army, he served as a police officer in Copperas Cove as well as an undercover narcotics investigator for five years. Rick's next move was to the DFW area working for the Dallas Assistant District Attorney's office as an investigator for the welfare fraud division. In Athens, Texas, he was a deputy sheriff for several years. After retirement he was constantly bombarded with health issues, which took their toll on him. However, not even a heart attack in 2013 could deter his courageous efforts to defend the Constitution in order to protect our freedom. As Rick would say, "Dying for freedom isn't the worst thing that could happen. Being forgotten is." Rick, you will not be forgotten! He is survived by his wife Bonnie.

Charles G. Erickson, SOA #1954, Command Sergeant Major, USA (Ret), passed away on February 4, 2015. Charles Erickson was born on January 13, 1947, in Nebraska. He enlisted in the U.S. Army on September 18, 1967, and completed basic training at Fort Bliss, Texas, in November 1967. He then attended Medical Corpsman training at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, from November 1967 to February 1968, Airborne School from February to March 1968 at Fort Benning, Georgia, and then Special Forces training at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, from March to August 1968. Sgt Erickson next completed U.S. Army Intelligence School at Fort Holabird, Maryland, followed by service as a light weapons leader and reconnaissance team leader with 5th Special Forces Group in South Vietnam from January 1969 to January 1970. His next assignment was as a light weapons leader with Company B, 7th Special Forces Group at Fort Bragg from March 1970 to March 1973, and during this time he served on Action Element 2 with Blueboy Assault Group during the Son Tay Raid, a clandestine mission to rescue American Prisoners of War in North Vietnam on November 21, 1970. SFC Erickson next attended Spanish Language training at the Defense Language Institute in Monterey, California, from May to September 1973, and then served as a light weapons leader with Company C, 3rd Special Forces Battalion of the 7th Special Forces Group at Fort Gulick, Panama Canal Zone, from September 1973 to November 1977. He served as a Drill Instructor with the Army ROTC unit at the University of Arizona from November

1977 to December 1980, and then served as First Sergeant of Company C, 2nd Battalion of the 47th Infantry Regiment at Fort Lewis, Washington, from December 1980 to November 1982. His next assignment was as an Enlisted Advisor and then Senior Enlisted Advisor at the Army Garrison at Fort Lewis from November 1982 to February 1985, and he then attended the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy at Fort Bliss, Texas, from February to July 1985. SGM Erickson served as Operations Sergeant Major and then Support Battalion Sergeant Major with 7th Special Forces Group at Fort Bragg from August 1985 to June 1986, followed by service as an instructor at the Army Sergeants Major Academy at Fort Bliss from June 1986 to June 1987. His next assignment was as Command Sergeant Major of 1st Battalion, 1st Special Forces Group on Okinawa from July 1987 to December 1988, and then as Assistant Operations Sergeant Major and then Command Sergeant Major with the U.S. Army Intelligence Center and School at Fort Huachuca from December 1988 until his retirement from the Army on November 1, 1994.

Frederick Forrest (Fred) Mentzer, SOA #1725, MAJ, (Ret), 77, died suddenly November 15, 2014 at his home in Keizer, OR, from complications of heart disease. Fred graduated from US Army flight school in class 63-4T, and retired from the Army as a Major. He served two tours in Vietnam, first with the 117th AHC in 64/65. In July 1967 he joined the 281st Assault Helicopter Company in Nha Trang which was OPCON to Detachment B-52, Project Delta, 5th Special Forces Group as the Gunship Platoon Leader. The 281st Assault Helicopter Company was the U.S. Army's first Special Operations Helicopter Company in 1967 and immediately took command of the Wolf Pack Gun Platoon, as the previous commander had been seriously wounded and hospitalized. During 1967/68 Fred continued to develop the Wolf Pack into one of the top weapons platoons in Vietnam. His mission was to protect and support the long-range reconnaissance teams of Project Delta, the members of the ARVN Special Forces Battalion attached to Delta and the flight crews of the 281st AHC. Fred was a professional helicopter pilot after leaving the Army working for companies in Europe, the Mid East, and in the US. He is survived by his wife of seven years, Karen, his high school sweetheart who he found again after 50 years. Also surviving are two daughters, and several grandchildren and great grandchildren. Another daughter predeceased him. In retirement he became very interested in computer technology, honing his skills to become proficient with both MAC's and PC's. He was an active member of the Keizer Elks Lodge. Fred's remains were cremated, and inurnment will be held at Arlington National Cemetery on April 14, 2015.

James G. "Jim" Ringland, SOA #1498, 1SGT, USA (Ret), age 80 years, of Holts Summit, Mo., passed away November 4, 2014 at home surrounded by his family. He was born on January 27, 1934 in New London, Connecticut the son of James G. and

Dora Oles Ringland. He was married in 1957 in New York to Joan Thomas, who preceded him in death in 1999. He later married Marilyn Fischer on November 16, 2002 in Bradenton, Florida. As a teenager he roller skated on 19" stilts in Florida and when he was 13 years old began racing boats built by his father in Sarasota Bay. Jim graduated from Manatee County High School in Bradenton, Florida in 1952. Jim "Ringo" was proud to serve his country in the United States Army, Special Forces, and Special Operations for over 26 years, retiring as First Sergeant. During his time in the service, Jim served one tour in Korea and three in Vietnam, volunteering for two of them. After his service in Vietnam, Jim helped teach survival and psychological warfare tactics at Fort Bragg in North Carolina to Special Forces soldiers. Jim excelled at everything he set his mind to and attained numerous honors and certifications in every position he held. In June 2010 Jim was the 11th recipient of the Saint Phillip Neri Patron Saint of the US Army Special Forces Silver Award for outstanding service to Special Forces. When President John F. Kennedy made the "Green Beret" the official headgear of the Special Forces soldier he was part of the ceremony. Following Jim's military career, he was employed with the Atlanta Braves organization as an in-house detective and self defense training officer, as a branch captain for the Atlanta Journal – Constitution, and as a locksmith in Atlanta and Tyler's Lock and Key in Jefferson City. He helped organize and was a life member of the Special Forces Association, Chapter #82 Branson where he served as president for ten years and was president of Chapter #59 in Georgia for many years. He was also a member of the Special Operation Association; American Legion Roscoe, Enloe Post 5; the Veteran's of Foreign Wars in Columbia, Mo.; and a supporter of the Patriot Guard Riders. A resident of central Missouri area since 2000, Jim enjoyed bowling, billiards, playing the drums, and being a supporter of the Central Missouri Honor Flight. Survivors include: his wife, Marilyn; two sons, Michael Ringland and his wife Alina of Laurel Hills, Florida, and James Ringland and his wife Tovah of Marietta, Georgia; one daughter, Monica Ringland of Mableton, Georgia; two brothers, Don Ringland and his wife Mary and Tommy Ringland and his friend Cleo, all of Bradenton, Florida; one sister, Dea Brown and her husband Don of Bradenton, Florida; his mother-in-law, Ada Arlene Fischer of Versailles, Mo.; four grandchildren, Alina Joan of Greensboro, North Carolina, James E. Ringland of Laurel Hills, Florida, and Nathan and Jadon Ringland of Marietta, Georgia; several nieces and nephews; and three beloved cats, Tucker, Anya, and Midnight. He was preceded in death by two brothers, Russell and Barry Ringland.

Ted Aslund, SOA #2875, Theodore "Ted" Darby Aslund, age 69, passed away Sunday, September 21, 2014. Mr. Aslund was born January 17, 1945 in Chester, SC. He was a U.S. Army Veteran and had served during the Vietnam War. Mr. Aslund was a former member of the Wolf Laurel Ski Patrol for eighteen years, he was an avid fisherman, and enjoyed spending time with his dogs. He was the son of the late Charles Birch and Isabel Darby Aslund. Survivors include his wife of fifteen years, Jean Manera Aslund;

his step-daughter, Elizabeth Manera Goodmon and step-son, Mitchell Medford. His memorial service was held at 2:30 p.m., Friday, September 26, 2014, in the Chapel of West Funeral Home, 17 Merrimon Ave. in Weaverville. Reverend Michelle K. Smith officiated.

Alfonso Stevens, SOA #3050, passed away on 30 August 2014.

Ray Whittington, SOA #49, passed away in August 2014. He is survived by his wife, Irene E. Whittington of Galveston, TX.

Jan Janosik, SOA #2446, passed away on July 30, 2014. He is survived by his wife, Josie. Jan served in White Star and was a resident of Brandon, FL.

Jon R. Cavaiani, SOA #1000, SGM, USA (Ret), Medal of Honor, died July 29, 2014 in Stanford, CA after a prolonged illness. By his side was his wife, Barbara. Born in England, Cavaiani came to the United States with his parents in 1947 at age four. Though initially classified 4F, due in part to a severe allergy to bee stings, Cavaiani eventually joined the Army from Fresno, California, shortly before becoming a naturalized citizen in 1968. He went to Vietnam in 1970 with the US Army Special Forces (the Green Berets) and by June 4, 1971, he was serving as a Staff Sergeant in Task Force 1 Advisory Element, USARV Training Advisory Group. This "advisory group" was formerly an element of the top secret and clandestine unit, MACV-SOG. On that day, near Khe Sanh, his outpost came under intense enemy attack. Cavaiani organized the unit's defense and, when evacuation by helicopter became necessary, he voluntarily stayed on the ground and directed the aircraft, which successfully evacuated most of the platoon. Cavaiani and a small group were left behind. During a major enemy attack the next morning, he ordered the remaining men to escape while he stayed and provided suppressive fire to cover their retreat. He was captured and spent the next two years as a prisoner of war. Jon R. Cavaiani was released by the Provisional Government of Vietnam on April 27, 1973. President Gerald Ford presented Cavaiani with the Medal of Honor during a ceremony on December 12, 1974. Cavaiani later reached the rank of Sergeant Major before retiring from the Army in 1996. According to John "Tilt" Meyer, president of the Special Operations Association and former member of MACV SOG's RT Idaho, "Jon remained very active in the Medal of Honor Society and the Special Operations Association and continued throughout his life to serve his nation and his community." Meyers continued, "His friends, family and brothers in arms will miss his broad smile and quick wit, but mostly we will miss his ever present willingness to help others." After returning from Vietnam, he served as an instructor at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, from July 1973 to August 1974, before transferring to the U.S. Army Readiness Region IX in San Francisco, California where he was assigned as the Chief

Enlisted Advisor. His next assignment was as an Operations Sergeant on the Allied Staff in West Berlin, Germany, from September 1977 to August 1980. Cavaiani then served with the 10th Special Forces Group at Fort Devens, Massachusetts, from August 1980 to May 1983, and then with the 11th Special Forces Group at Fort Meade, Maryland, from May 1983 to June 1984. His next assignment was with the 97th Army Reserve Command, also at Fort Meade, where he served until September 1985. Moving to Fort Eustis, Virginia, he assumed the position of NCOIC of Plans, Operations, and Training and then as Operations Sergeant Major with the Flight Concepts Division, a slot he held until May 1989. SGM Cavaiani's final assignment was as Chief Instructor at the Army ROTC detachment at the University of California, Davis campus, from May 1989 until his retirement from the Army on May 31, 1990. Upon retiring, he served as the 6th region director of the Congressional Medal of Honor Society and also graduated with honors from the culinary arts program in Columbia, California where he lived with his wife Barbara. Jon is survived by his wife, two daughters, three grandsons, and two granddaughters. Among his numerous awards and decorations are the nation's highest award for valor, the Army Medal of Honor; the Legion of Valor, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star medal (valor), Purple Heart with oak leaf clusters. Jon was a freefall and static line jumpmaster and has over 5,000 jumps all over the world. Funeral services will be held at Reilly Funeral Home in Philadelphia with burial to take place at Arlington National Cemetery.

James Holt, On Thursday, 14 May the remains of James Holt (KIA 07FEB1968 at Lang Vei) will be interred in Arlington with a reception following at the Fort Myer Officer's Club. MSG Holt had been classified as MIA for 47 years until his remains were identified in January, 2015 and accepted by his family. MSG James Holt was assigned to Detachment A-101 (Lang Vei) Company C, 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne)

George A. Fisher, SOA #636, LTC, USA (Ret), died on 5 July 2014 at his home in Las Vegas, at the age of 79. George retired from the US Army after 28 years of service as a Military Intelligence officer with the rank of Lt. Colonel. His tours of duty encompassed South Vietnam, Laos (Project 404), Thailand, Cambodia, China, South Korea, Europe and the Middle East. Among his awards and decorations are The Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Vietnam Cross of Gallantry, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal and numerous awards from allied Nations. George was fluent in the Chinese, French, Burmese and Thai languages. In 1998, he was preceded in death by his wife, Beverly. He is survived by his daughter, Vickie Fisher-Moore; her husband, Robert Moore and grandchildren, George Cody Moore and Kaitlyn Wray Moore of Hendersonville, North Carolina.

John McGovern, SOA #2574, SOA member and highly respected SOG member from

Phu Bai, died 19 June 2014, with his loving wife, Janet, by his side.

Paul C. Payne, SOA #2098, passed away at his home on 16 June, 2014. A visitation and service will be held at Rogers and Breece Funeral Home on 21 June.

Roger L. Sullivan, SOA #976, 68, of Richmond, died at home on May 4, 2014. A native Virginian, Roger was the son of the late John L. Sullivan and Janie Emma Curtis. He graduated from Spotsylvania High School in 1964, attended Richmond Professional Institute for one year, and then joined the U.S. Army in January 1966. Roger served proudly with the 5th Special Forces Group MACV-SOG, Command & Control North, in Vietnam, the most decorated unit during the Vietnam War. While operating with Recon Team Krait out of Khe Sanh, Vietnam, he was critically wounded on February 19, 1968, and medi-vaced to Japan. For his courageous service, he was awarded the Silver Star, Bronze Star for Valor, Presidential Unit Citation, Purple Heart, Air Medal, Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm, Vietnam Civil Actions Honor Medal, First Class, Combat Infantryman Badge and Vietnam Service Medal with Two Bronze Stars. After recovery, Roger was returned to 6th Special Forces Group, Ft. Bragg, where he was discharged in December 1968. Roger returned to college at VCU, earning his degree in Business Management (Real Estate). He was successful in the real estate and insurance business until redirecting his focus and interests and certifying as a National Service Officer for a Veterans Service Organization. He became a passionate champion for veterans' rights and developed an all-consuming devotion to advocating on their behalf at every level. He retired as NSO six years ago, but he continued to help Veterans daily until his illness this year. Roger is survived by his loving wife of 42 years, Brenda; their devoted twins, of whom Roger was so proud, Suzanne and Jonathan; his brother, George Curtis (Elsie) of Spotsylvania; brothers-in-law, Joddie Williams Jr. and Kenny Williams (Sue) of Emporia; three nephews, two nieces, and a growing family of great and great-great-nieces and nephews. Interment, with military honors, will be at Arlington National Cemetery.

Lou Smith, SOA #134, passed away on Sunday, May 1, 2014 at the VA hospital in Indianapolis, IN according to his wife, Bettye. Lou was also a member of SFA – Chapter 21 in Florida. Lou was one of the original 33 men that opened FOB-2 at Kontum in May of 1966 and served on RT Dakota.

James R. McGlon, SOA #1589, recently passed away from complications from pneumonia according to his wife, Anne. A military burial was completed last Saturday and memorial services will be conducted on Saturday the 26th at his local church. Jim, also known to his friends as “Old Blue”, served on A-103 (Gia Vuc) in 1967 then again on RT New York in 1968.

F.M. Ritchie, SOA #734, At approximately 1200 hours local time, 9 April 2014, F. M. Ritchie passed away at the local VA Hospice Center in Ivins, Utah. F.M. was an "Original" member of the 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne) located at Fort Bragg, North Carolina and deployed to Bad Tolz, Germany in November 1953. He will be missed by all who knew him.

Robert "Bob" Willman, SOA #1855, passed away Monday evening, April 1, 2014. Bob's wife's name is Gail. Her one son is in China.

Christopher Kemp, SOA #102, passed away March 23, 2014 from complications due to Parkinson's Disease. Dr. Kemp was a former member of the Army Special Forces and Special Operations. He was a life member of the Special Forces and Special Operations Associations. He was professor emeritus at Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville, MO. For his doctoral studies, Dr. Kemp did an extensive study on Native American Tribes. A few of the tribes were The Crow, Mescalero Apache, Navajo, Cheyenne and Blackfeet. At the time of Dr. Kemp's studies, he also was allowed to study at Taos Pueblo. At the time, he was only the 2nd Non Native American allowed to study at Taos Pueblo. Dr. Kemp also did extensive field work in Central America.

Newlin "Eric" Happersett, SOA #225, Lt. Col., US Army (Ret), passed away March 18, 2014 in Phoenix Arizona. Eric was born in 1923 Colorado and grew up on a ranch in Wyoming. At age 17 Eric enlisted in the US Army Air Corp. As result of his bravery and dedication to duty, he rose through the ranks and, after 26 years, retired as a Lieutenant Colonel. Eric's military career spanned three wars. As a gunner during World War II, his plane was shot down and he was captured and held as a POW in Nazi Germany for two years. Upon his release, he returned to duty and went on to serve in Korea where he was wounded in action. During the Vietnam War, Eric was a member of the storied 82nd Airborne Division. As a Green Beret in Special Forces he repeatedly fought behind enemy lines, served three tours of duty and was again wounded in action. In 1970 Eric retired from military service and moved to Arizona where he worked as a Lieutenant in the Maricopa County Sheriff's Department and later became the City of Peoria Chief of Police. A lifelong horse lover, Eric fulfilled his dream of having a horse ranch as owner of Bluegrass Arabians in Cave Creek. He and his wife Joyce made many friends in the Scottsdale horse community and were very active breeding, training and showing Arabians and Quarter Horses. He was also a devoted dog and allaround animal lover. As a genuine war hero and committed animal advocate, there are countless human beings and other living things who owe their lives to Eric. Eric Happersett is survived by his loving wife of 46 years, Joyce, brotherinlaw and friend Ted Klainer, Sr; nieces Mary and Stephanie Klainer, and nephew, Ted S. Klainer.

There will be a visitation on Thursday, March 27th, 5 to 8pm at Shadow Mountain Mortuary, 2350 E Greenway Rd, Phoenix. Funeral Mass will be held on Friday, March 28th, 9am at Our Lady of Joy Catholic Church, 36811 N. Pima Rd, Carefree, followed by internment at 11 am at the National Memorial Cemetery on Pinnacle Peak Road.

Ola Lee Mize, SOA #1257, COL (USA Ret.), Medal of Honor, passed away on 12 March 2014. Colonel Mize was born on 28 August 1931 and entered the United States Army on 18 April 1950. After completing Basic Training and Airborne School, he was assigned to the 325th AIR at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. In 1952, then Sergeant Mize, was assigned to the 15th Infantry Regiment, 3d Infantry Division and rose to the rank of First Sergeant. While assigned to Company K, 15th Infantry Regiment, Sergeant Mize distinguished himself during action against the enemy near Surang-ni, Korea, on 10-11 June 1953. While committed to the defense of "Outpost Harry," a strategically valuable position, the enemy launched a heavy attack. Sergeant Mize established an effective defense system and inflicted heavy casualties against attacks from enemy assault forces which had penetrated into trenches within the outpost area. Throughout the tenuous fight, Sergeant Mize led his Soldiers from bunker to bunker to clear the enemy forces. After reestablishing the defense, he moved from man to man, distributing ammunition and shouting words of encouragement, despite being blown down by artillery and grenade blasts three times. On September 7, 1954 he was presented the Medal of Honor by President Dwight D. Eisenhower. In 1956, Colonel Mize received his commission and was initially assigned to Fort Bragg and subsequently to Germany. After leaving Germany in 1962, then Captain Mize, completed Special Forces training and was assigned to the 7th Special Forces Group. In late 1963, he was assigned to the 5th Special Forces Group, where he was deployed to Vietnam as an A-Team Leader. In 1965, he was assigned to the Special Forces Training Group, where he was the Advanced Training Committee chief for SCUBA, HALO, and the SKY HOOK schools. Colonel Mize is credited for being the officer responsible for starting the present day Combat Divers Qualification Course in Key West, FL. From 1966 to 1967, he was again assigned to Vietnam with the 5th Special Forces Group where he was an Operational A, B, and C Detachment Commander and once more in 1969, where he was assigned to the 5th Special Forces Group as the Commander of the 3d Mobile Strike Force Command (Cambodian Troops). In 1975 Colonel Mize was assigned to Fort Bragg, North Carolina, where he was initially the Special Forces School Chief for the Field Training Division and Resistance Division and subsequently the Commander of the Special Forces School. Colonel Mize's awards include the Medal of Honor, Silver Star, Legion of Merit (with Oak Leaf Cluster), Bronze Star (with four Oak Leaf Clusters), Ranger Tab, Master Parachutist Badge, SCUBA Badge, and the Combat Infantryman's Badge (2nd award). Colonel Mize retired in 1981 and lived in Gadsden, AL with his wife, the former Betty Ruth Jackson. He has been a frequent speaker with the Regimental "dining ins," an event that preceded the Regimental First Formations, where Special Forces candidates receive their berets. He is also active in the Medal of Honor Society and gives talks to school groups not only about the Medal of Honor, but the Army in general.

Celestino William Garcia, SOA #1052, CSM (Ret), age 84, of Widefield, CO, passed away at home February 11, 2014. He was born April 6, 1929 in La Junta, CO but grew up in Rocky Ford, CO prior to his military service which became his life-long passion. He is survived by his son, Gregory; his daughter, Rhonda Lewis; his grandson, Joshua (Colleen) Lewis; his great-grandson, Francisco, and his brother-in-law, Werner Gierth. He was preceded in death by his devoted wife of 54 years, Helga. Bill joined the Army

Air Corps at age 17 but when it was discovered he was not yet 18 years old he was sent home where he stayed working with his dad as a sheepherder and as a pressman for Unique Cleaners in Rocky Ford. As soon as he turned 18 he joined the U. S Army, where he remained until his retirement in October 1968. He rose quickly through the enlisted ranks and became one of the youngest Command Sergeant Majors (CSM). Throughout his retirement he was very active in the VFW, American Legion and especially the Special Operations Association. For many years, up to and including 2013, he attended the Special Operations association Reunion in Las Vegas, NV. Up until three years ago he would meet his comrade in arms Don Benjamin in Cheyenne, WY and drive in Don's motor home to Las Vegas. After that he agreed reluctantly to take a flight to Las Vegas. Among the many highlights of his career was sewing with the 11th and 101st Airborne as a paratrooper. He was stationed for many years at Fort Campbell, KY. He also proudly served the U. S. Army in assignments to Japan, Korea, Germany and Vietnam, where he had four different assignments. He was later assigned to Fort Carson, where he proudly served as CSM for the Aviation Battalion until his retirement in October 1968. It was in Germany that he married his wife Helga in January, 1957. Bill was very proud that in whatever country he was assigned he learned to speak their language. He was fluent in Japanese, Korean and German, in addition to Spanish and English. Bill was a member of a large close family. He was preceded in death by his parents, Donaciano and Lucy Garcia; his sisters, Ann, Viola, and Mary; his brother, Donald Ernest; his stepfather, Juan Zamora, and his stepbrothers, Joe and John Zamora. He is also survived by his sisters, Sylvia (Tony) Aragon and Bertha Garcia; his brother, Charles (Delia) Garcia, his stepsister, Mary Lou Zamora and his stepbrother, Isaac Zamora. Bill was very close to and was loved very much by all his nephews and nieces. They include Bob (Judy), Jimmy (Maria), Ben, Donny, Billy Vigil, Marilyn (Fernando) Sanchez, Pauline (Joe) Gil, Patty Arendt, Michael (Birdy), and Andy Bennett; Anthony (Linda) Garcia, Jonathan Marshall Garcia; Carla, Carlos (Theresa), and Christopher Garcia; his grandnephews, Nick Gonzales and Erik Garcia; his grandnieces Nyssa Garcia, Adriana Gonzales, Aurelia and Mia Garcia, and step nephews and nieces Becky Pacheco, Marisa (Jose) Gomez, Denise (Tony) Hernandez, and Vincent Zamora. He was also preceded in death by a niece, Nancy Juarez and nephew Larry Arendt. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, February 20, at Dove-Witt Family Mortuary, 6630 S. Highway 85/87, Fountain, CO. Bill's remains will be cremated. After completion of the new National Cemetery in Colorado Springs, Bill and Helga will be laid to rest.

Paul E. Hill, SOA #2106, passed away on January 27, 2014.

Charles W. Norton, Jr., SOA #871, COL (Ret), passed away peacefully Saturday, 16 November, 2013. Charlie enlisted in the Army in 1944 and was assigned to the Persian Gulf Command where he earned his commission. He returned to his home in Maine serving in the National Guard. He volunteered for a new organization, the 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne) in late 1952. He then volunteered for duty in Korea with the 8240th Army Unit. He was then assigned to the 77th SFG(A) as a Detachment CO

under COL Aaron Bank in 1954. He had several assignments between the 77th, 10th, 7th SFG's and the UW Department at the special Warfare School. In 1962 he was assigned to the 1st SFG(A) on Okinawa and was made the first full tour CO of the resident detachment in Korea. After a tour with the 1st Armored Div. COL Norton was assigned to MACV SOG in Vietnam and commanded FOB 2 replacing MAJ Larry Thorne, who was at that time MIA. He expanded the program establishing two FOB's at Khe Sanh and Dak To. He served as operations and launch officer of the FOB's and became XO of CCC. He returned to CONUS as the sole instructor in UW and Airborne Operations at the Armed Forces Staff College. In 1969 Charlie returned to Vietnam as the XO of the 5th SFG (A). After that tour he took a course in Finnish and was assigned as the Army Attaché in Finland. He returned to Ft. Bragg as the CO of the 7th SFG(A) and later the DCO of the JFK Center for Military Assistance. Charlie retired in 1981. He joined the SFA in 1966 and was President Emeritus of Chapter 11. Charlie's widow, Virginia "Ginny" asked that if anyone wishes memorials may be made to the Special Operations Warrior Foundation or the JFK Special Warfare Center Museum at Ft. Bragg. Services will be in the Spring at Arlington.

Ronald D. Colwell, SOA #1180, passed away 7 Nov. 2013. Ronald served in the Korean War and had four or more tours in Vietnam. Ronald retired with 20 years of active service. Ron was a member of SFA and SOA. Among his awards are the Silver Star, Bronze star and 3 Purple Hearts. Ronald will be buried in Arlington National Cemetery in the spring of 2014. He is survived by his niece Kathy Foster.

Rheault, Robert B, SOA #387, COL (Ret), 87, passed away peacefully at home in Owl's Head, Maine on 16 October, 2013. Bob worked as a cowboy on ranches in Wyoming when he was just 14. He graduated from Phillips Exeter Academy and attended the US Military Academy, West Point. He first saw combat in Korea earning a Silver Star and rising to the rank of Captain. He returned to West Point and taught French for several years. He attended the Special Forces Officer Course in 1960 and was assigned to the 10th Special Forces Group in Germany. In 1964 he served with the 5th Special Forces Group in Vietnam. He served on the Special Operations Division, Office of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in 1966. He took command of the 1st Special Forces Group on Okinawa in 1968 and commanded the 5th Special Forces Group in Vietnam until his retirement in 1969. After his retirement Bob worked for the Hurricane Island Outward Bound School for 32 years. He started as an Assistant Watch Officer and rose to President of the school. During the last 19 of those years he started and ran an Outward Bound Program for Vietnam Veterans suffering from PTSD. He was preceded in death by his brother, Andre and his first wife, Nan. He is survived by his wife of 36 years, Susan; five children, Susanne, Meesh, Robert Jr, Nicholas and Alexis. He is also survived by many loving in-laws, nephews and nieces, grandchildren and one goddaughter. The family requests memorials be made to The Hurricane Island Outward Bound School, 39 Mechanic St. Suite 310, Camden, ME 04843

Sadler, John F. Jr., SOA #1744, COL (Ret), 89, passed away on 7 October, 2013, after being hospitalized for massive heart failure. COL Sadler enlisted in 1943, attended

Airborne School and was sent to the Pacific Theater with the 511 PIR, 11th Airborne Div. He fought across New Guinea, the Philippines, Leyte and Luzon. He attended Officer Candidate School in Australia in 1945. After Japan surrendered he served with the Army of Occupation in 1947. He then served in Korea with the 8240th, 8751st and 8706 Army Units, the forerunners of modern Special Forces. After the Korean War COL Sadler was assigned to the XVIII Airborne Corps at Fort Bragg and then to JUSMAAG, Turkey. In 1961 he was assigned to PACOM in Hawaii in a classified position. He became Chief, Military Region 2 in Laos where he supported the White Star Teams. After various assignments with the 82nd Airborne Division, the 187th Parachute Infantry Regiment and the Army War College, he became Chief, Plans and Programs Division, USAREUR. While as a Brigade CO in the 8th Infantry Division he got the call to become the fifth, and final, Chief, Studies and Observations Group (SOG). He served as Chief SOG from 1970 to 1972. His last assignment was DCO, Southern Command in the Canal Zone. He retired in 1975 after 32 ½ years of distinguished service. Among his many awards and decorations are the Distinguished Flying Cross, Bronze Star w/V, Air Medal, Purple Heart, many WWII and Korean service medals, CIB w/Star, Master OParachutist Badge, Glider Badge. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Beth. He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Dorothy "Murph;" daughter, Kris and son John. He is also survived by four grandchildren and great grandchildren.

William J. Boggs, SOA #1372, MAJ, USA (Ret), 79, of Dog Run Rd. Salem departed this life on Friday, September 20, 2013 at the Louis A. Johnson VA Medical Center. He was born on May 8, 1934 at Thornton a son of the late William Washington and Mabel Pearl Snyder Boggs. Twice married he was preceded in death by his first wife Barbara Allen Boggs. On October 20, 2007 he married Mary Elizabeth Alfred Boggs who survives. Mr. Boggs was a retired Major, U. S. Army Special Forces. He had two tours of duty in Vietnam and was a Bronze Star and Purple Heart recipient. He was Department of WV Military Order of Purple Heart State Commander; 3rd District Commander, American Legion and Commander, Underage Veterans of Military Service. He was a Cum Laude graduate of Fairmont State University. Mr. Boggs and his first wife bred and showed Chow Chow as Sylvan Heights Chows. Also surviving is three sons, James Boggs and wife Alcinda, Clarksburg, William A. Boggs, Weston, Christopher Gladkosky, Salem, one grandchild, Lindsey Boggs, one great grandchild, Cayden Boggs. five brothers, John A. Boggs, MN, Merritt Boggs, Clarksburg, Max Boggs, Los Angeles, CA, James Boggs, Hagerstown, MD and Joseph Boggs, Alum Bridge. Two sons, Joseph Wayne Boggs and John Andrew Boggs preceded him in death. A memorial service was conducted at the Harbert Funeral Home; 287 W. Main St.; Salem, WV on Monday, September 23, 2013.

John A. Damoth, SOA #1414, passed away Sept. 12, 2013. He served in Vietnam with SOG recon at CCS & CCC.

Minnicks, Charles J., SOA #3559, 82, passed away on 31 August, 2013, in Greensburg, PA. Skip served during the Korean War and joined Special Forces serving in the original 77th Special Forces Group in 1954. He also served with the 7th and 3rd Special Forces Groups. He went to Vietnam with the 5th SFG in 1962 and served

continuously until 1969 in various assignments. He was assigned to I, II and III Corps, Delta Project and was at Khe Sanh during the Tet Offensive of 1968. After retirement he belonged to the Shidle Lodge 601, Syria Shrine of Pittsburgh, Syria Shrine Gun Club, the Coudersport Consistory, VFW Post 8427, American Legion Post 945, several Rod and Gun Clubs, the Khe Sanh Veterans Association and the Special Forces Association. He was inducted into the PA Hall of Valor at the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall and Museum. He is survived by his wife, Patricia Ann; a son, Charles; three grandchildren; Charles, Margaret and Patricia; and his brother, James. Masonic services were held at the Shidle Lodge 601. Interment with full military honors was in the Westmorland County Memorial Park.

Jerry Lee, SOA #1615, 78, of Palm Coast passed away August 3, 2013. A Memorial Service will be held in his honor Wednesday, August 7, 2013 at 1:00 pm at Lohman Funeral Home Palm Coast. Jerry proudly served his country for 22 years in the US Army, retiring as a Master Sergeant in Special Forces. Jerry had a second career in the US Postal Service, retiring after 22 years there, as well. Jerry and his wife Sandra moved to Palm Coast from Canterbury, NH in 2003. In NH, Jerry attended and graduated from Nathaniel Hawthorne College in 1980. Jerry enjoyed Florida for the golf and fishing. He also was an avid reader. Jerry was a life member of the VFW, and active in the Special Operations Association and Chapter XXI Special Forces Association. Jerry will be sadly missed by his wife Sandra and their five children: Peter R. Lee, Sharmon Lee Moes, Terra Lee, David E. Lee, and Matthew H. Lee and daughter in law Kimberly, and by his ten beloved grandchildren. Arrangements are under the careful direction of Lohman Funeral Home Palm Coast. Condolences may be shared with the family at www.lohmanfuneralhomes.com.

Gregory P. Barlow, SOA #656, passed away on July 4, 2013.

Ronald Henry "Tex" Houston, SOA #2288, SSG, USA, passed away May 27, 2013. He was a member of the 5th SFGA during the Vietnam War. It is with great sadness, we report the loss of SSG Ronald Henry "Tex" Houston, who passed away, 27 May 2013, in Wickenburg, AZ. Tex died as a result after a lengthy battle with cancer. I served with Tex at SOG CCS; he was assigned to 1st Exploration Company, with extensive combat time running missions with Captain Carr and Pappy Reed. On my first tour, I was assigned to 1st company for a very short time and went on two operations with him before joining CCS Recon. My second week in country, I went on my very first mission with Tex. It was my first combat, and Tex went the extra mile to make sure I didn't do stupid as I earned my CIB. Tex was a friend, a great warrior, solid soldier. He was one of those soldiers you could rely on 100% in the field. Tex returned to the US and went back to being a cowboy in Texas and AZ for years, then started a Gun Shop in AZ. He recently gave the SOA several items for our silent auction. He is survived by his only daughter, unfortunately; he had little or no contact with her over the years. Tex was a member of the SOA/SFA, he was a decorated SOG veteran receiving his CIB and Purple Heart, if my memory is correct, he earned several awards for valor and achievement.
May he RIP

Pete "BUS" Buscetto
CCS Recon

Rondald Darwin Wingo, SOA #273, CW3, US Army (Ret), passed away May 13th, 2013 at St Vincent's Hospital, Birmingham, Alabama. He had been undergoing treatment for cancer. Ron was born on December 31st, 1939 in Sipsey, Alabama. After graduation from high school, Ron entered the Army and after various training programs at Fort Bragg he was assigned to 1st Special Forces Group on Okinawa. While assigned to 1st Special Forces Group, he served several TDY tours in Vietnam with Combined Studies, and 5th Special Forces Group. One of his assignments was with MACV Recondo School. He returned to CONUS assigned to 7th Special Forces Group at Fort Bragg in 1969 and then attended the Warrant Officer Academy and Flight School. Upon completion he was assigned to the Aviation Unit at Hamby Army Air Field on Okinawa. He retired from the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg. After retiring he flew a ferrying service to oil rigs in the Gulf of Mexico and then as a Life Support Pilot with the Carraway Methodist Medical Center in Alabama retiring as their Chief Pilot in 2000. His many awards and decorations include the Bronze Star, CIB, Master Parachutist Badge, Senior Army Aviator Badge and Combat Divers Badge. He was a member of the Special Forces Association and the Special Operations Association as well as several other Veteran Associations. Ron is survived by his wife of 46 years, Fumiko of the home, three children: Brett, Katharine and Linda, two brothers: Tony and Rex Wingo, five grandchildren: Abbi Brown, Cody Small, Houston Wingo, Harrison Wingo and Hudson Wingo. "Rags" will be cremated and interred in the National Cemetery in Montevallo, Alabama with full military honors on Thursday 23 May at 1315 Address: 3133 Alabama Hwy, Montevallo, There will be an informal reception for family and friends on Wednesday 22 May from 1800 to 2100 at the Fairfield Inn Reception Room, 1795 Morris Ave., Fultondale, Alabama. In lieu of flowers as per Ron's request, a donation may be made to the Special Forces Association, P.O. Box 41436, Fayetteville, NC 29309.

William A. Curry, III, SOA #147, passed away at his home in Columbus, NE on Saturday, April 20, 2013. Bill served with RT New Hampshire in CCC during the period 1970-71. The funeral service will be Wednesday, April 24 at 10:30 A.M. at the Gass Haney Funeral Home, with military honors provided by the American Legion Hartman Post 84 Honor Guard. Visitation on Tuesday from 5-8 P.M. at the Gass Haney Funeral Home.

Michael E. LaDue, SOA #464, passed away on April 11, 2013.

Stephen G. Filipetti, SOA #398, B56 (SIGMA) Recon comrade, passed away on April 7, 2013 at his home in Hoquiam, Grays Harbor County, Washington. Steve had five brothers and sisters: Kathy (Filipetti) Hill, Suzanne Filipetti, Joyce Filipetti, Brian Filipetti and Kenneth Filipetti (Joyce's twin) who passed away in 2003. Steve is survived by his wife, Bobbie (Lewis) Filipetti. Steve is mentioned in LTC Fred Lindsey's Secret Green Beret Commandos in Cambodia on page 120 on the B56 Recon roster, and on page 149 for a recon mission as One-One for an Unknown RT, receiving a BSV & PH on

5/28-30, 1968.

Paul F. Campbell, SOA #409, passed away April 1, 2013. Paul is survived by his wife, June; children, Karen and Todd; and many friends and relatives. He served with the 77th Group (1955-59); 1st Group (1959-1963); 5th & 3rd Groups (1963-66); 5th Group (Vietnam)(1966-67); 7th Group (1967-69); 5th Group (1969-70) and retired out of 7th Group in 1970.

Thomas F. Smith, SOA #138, SFC, US Army (Ret), 71 of Tampa, Florida passed away March 23, 2013. Thomas Smith contributed to changing the world in many ways ranging from helping to shape the solar home industry to how personal security is handled today. His career started in the U.S. Army where he served on Special Forces "A" Teams and was an early member of the Studies and Operations Group. After the military he moved to Japan to study martial arts where he studied under the Osensei of Aikido. Despite moving to country with any Japanese language skills, he graduated from the prestigious Sophia University in Tokyo and published books in Japanese. Following graduation he entered a think tank in Tokyo and travelled extensively doing research on emerging trends. During the time one of the emerging trends was for developing energy efficient homes and his travels him culminated with him designing and building a prototype passive solar home in Lake Tahoe. Over the next decade 1000's of his solar designs were built around the country. The homes and technology he developed were featured in many publications including but not limited to Popular Mechanics, Better Homes and Gardens, MacWorld (for being one of the very first adopters of Mac-based CAD programs for home design). Never one to sit still, he would occasionally harness his earlier special operations trainings and would routinely engage in special security cases around the world. This eventually changed his focus away from the solar home industry and into the venturous world of international security. He became business partners with the legendary Richard Meadows and worked throughout Latin America. Over the next couple of decades he would help organizations navigate through security issues (ranging from corporate security to kidnap negotiations) in some of the world's most dangerous countries. He headed up security for Fortune 500 companies and large NGO s throughout Latin America, Middle East, Haiti, and South Asia. His innovative approaches to security while sticking to the motto of "keeping things simple" have led to pivotal works in the field (videos, manuals, etc.) and his upcoming book on the subject. He was a member of the American Society for Industrial Security and a life member of both the Special Operations Association and Special Forces Association.

Michael J. Phelan Jr, SOA #1598, LTC, US Army (Ret), passed away March 14th, 2013 at Mercy Hospital Northwest in Rogers, Arkansas. Mike was born on December 3rd, 1932 in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. He enlisted in the Army during the Korean War. After the war he attended Language School (Chinese Mandarin) and was further assigned to 1st Special Forces Group on Okinawa. While assigned to 1st Group, he served several TDY tours in Vietnam with Combined Studies. Mike also served with the 1st Bn, 503rd, 173rd Airborne Brigade, and the MACV-J3 Office. During the period 1969 – 1971 he was assigned as Senior Advisor to the Republic of China Special Forces. His other major assignments were with 3rd Special Forces Group, 11th and 101st Airborne

Divisions. His many awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, CIB, Bronze Star and the Vietnam Service Medal with nine campaign stars. He was preceded in death by his wife of 22 years, Patricia, and brother James Phelan. He is survived by his beloved partner, Joan McDermitt, of Havasu City, Arizona, a former US Army Nurse who Mike met in Vietnam; two daughters, Kelly Bellers and her husband Mike of St Louis, Missouri; and Heather O'Dell of Lebanon, Missouri; and three grandchildren, Helena O'Dell and Alex and Maddie Bellers. Burial was on 19 March, 2013, with full military honors at the Springfield National Cemetery, Springfield, Missouri. Zai Jian.

William "Bill" Terrell Tibbit, SOA #78, CPT, US Army (Ret), of Fayetteville, passed away peacefully at his home surrounded by family on Saturday, March 9, 2013. William was born on March 31, 1941, in Texarkana, TX to the late Thomas Lee Tibbit and Marguerite Sams Tibbit. He was preceded in death by his twin brother, Thomas Gerrell Tibbit. Ret. Cpt. William T. Tibbit was Special Forces who served 3 tours during the Vietnam War; was Decorated for Valor, served 7 campaigns, and received two Purple Hearts for his honorable service to his country. His dedication continued on in the form of serving as the Vice President of Chapter I-XVIII Special Forces Association. He was the past President of the Retired Military Association. Bill was also a life member of the Special Operation Association and the National Order of Battlefield Commissions. Bill is survived by daughter Kim Tibbit Simmons and husband, Jimmy Simmons of Parkton; two sons Terrell Tibbit Jr. and his wife, Denise Tibbit of Fayetteville and William "Tyler" Tibbit of Las Vegas, Nevada; one brother Bob Tibbit and his wife, Rosie Tibbit of Midfield, TX; one granddaughter Erika Jordan Simmons and fiancé Chris Wright of Needville, TX; one grandson, Scott Simmons of Fayetteville; one niece and two nephews; numerous grand-nephews and nieces Services entrusted to Rogers and Breece Funeral Home, of Fayetteville, NC.

Norman Allen Doney, SOA #665, CSM, US Army (Ret), passed away February 20th 2013 in the Oregon Veteran's Home, The Dalles, Oregon. Norm had been ill for quite some time. His military service began in January 1946 when he quit high school and joined the U.S. Navy. He was discharged November 1947 and returned to high school. After graduating from High School he enlisted in the Army in March 1953. Norm had many various assignments to include the 5th Infantry Division, 82nd and 101st Airborne Divisions before he volunteered for Special Forces in 1961. His initial assignment was with 7th Special Forces Group in which he served on a "White Star" Mobile Training Team (MTT). Norm served two (2) tours of duty with B-52, "Project Delta", a tour with MACV-SOG at CCC, Kontum, and a tour with Special Mission Advisory Group (SMAG). He also served with 6th (Ft Bragg), 8th (Panama) and 10th (Ft Devens) Special Forces Groups. Among Norm's awards and decorations are the Silver Star, 8 Bronze stars for Valor & Meritorious Service, Purple Heart, CIB, 4 Presidential Unit Citations, Master Parachutist Badge and the Vietnam Service Medal with 12 Campaign Stars. He was a member of both the Special Forces Association and Special Operations Association and was very active in MIA/POW issues for both Organizations. Norm is survived by his wife Hazel Patricia (Patti), three Sons, and two Daughters.

Kenneth Moyer, SOA #1985, MSG, US Army (Ret), passed away February 11th, 2013

at Tripler Army Hospital in Honolulu, Hawaii. He had been undergoing treatment for a heart attack and heart failure. Ken was born on 9 August 1937 in Vancouver, Washington. His Special Forces assignments were with the 1st, 7th, and 5th Special Forces Groups. Ken served in MACV-SOG on two occasions: TDY while assigned to 1st Special Forces Group and again while assigned to 5th Special Forces Group. He also was assigned to STDAT (Strategic Technical Directorate Assistance Team) and FANK. Ken also served with the 505th AIR in Germany. He was a Life Member of the Special Operations Association and the Special Forces Association of which he was President of Chapter 43. Among his many awards and decorations are the Presidential Unit Citation, Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal, ARCOM w/V Device, CIB, and Master Parachute Badge. He is survived by his wife Emiko (Amy); two sons: Mark and John; one daughter Paula; four grandchildren: Lukas, Naomia, Alexandria and Marcus. Funeral Services are scheduled for March 24th in Hilo, Hawaii.

Robert L. Cavanaugh, SOA #75, passed away January 30, 2013.

Regis H. Murphy, Jr., SOA #2657, passed away January 15, 2013.

William G. Bowles, SOA #3041, SGM, US Army (Ret) passed away December 8, 2012 at a medical facility in Atlanta, Georgia. He had been undergoing treatment for cancer. Billy was born on the 22nd of August 1930 in Alabama. He entered the Army in 1948 and spent subsequent tours in Germany. His first Special Forces assignment was with the 77th Special Forces Group during which he was further assigned to "White Star". His next assignment was 1st Special Forces Group on Okinawa. While assigned to 1st Group, he served three TDY tours in Vietnam, two with Combined Studies, and one with 5th Special Forces Group. Billy also served with the 6th Special Forces Group and the 8th Special Forces Group (Panama). He returned to the 5th Special Forces Group in Vietnam and served as the Sergeant Major of MACV Recondo School. His many awards and decorations include the Purple Heart, and CIB. He was preceded in death by his daughter and wife Erma. He is survived by a step son and step daughter. Burial will be held at Arlington National Cemetery on Tuesday, February 19, 2013 at 1500 with full Military Honors.

James P. Monaghan, SOA #27, Captain, US Army, (Ret) passed away on December 7, 2012 at St Mary's Hospital in Long Beach, California from complications relating to exposure to agent orange. Jim was born on the 9th of August 1936 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He entered the Army in 1953 and his first major assignment was to the 557th QM Co (Abn), an Aerial Delivery Unit in France. His Special Forces Assignments started with the 7th Special Forces Group at Fort Bragg. Then to 1st Special Forces Group Okinawa, Vietnam (A-421 Plei Mrong 1963, A-422 Ashau Valley 1964), and the Republic of China (Taiwan); 3rd Special Forces Group; 5th Special Forces Group (III Corps Mike Force A-302 1966; SOCPAC Okinawa; 10th Special Forces Group Germany; 5th Special Forces Group (B-56/Advisor to Team 162 Delta Project changeover to 81st Airborne Ranger Group 1970); 1st Special Forces Group Okinawa A-323 (SCUBA) and Army Readiness Region IX Presidio of San Francisco as Senior Enlisted Advisor to 3rd Bn, 12th Special Forces Group. His many awards and

decorations include the Silver Star, Soldier's Medal, Purple Heart w/2 OLC, ARCOM w/"V" Device, Presidential Unit Citation, Meritorious Unit Citation, Combat Infantryman's Badge, Vietnamese Service Medal w/6 Campaign Stars, Master Parachutist Badge, SCUBA Badge, Vietnam Cross of Gallantry w/Palm, Vietnam Cross of Gallantry w/Silver Star, and Vietnam Parachute Badge. Jim was President of Chapter 2, Founding Member of Chapter 23, and a member of Chapter 43, Special Forces Association. He was also the second President of Special Operations Association. After his retirement in 1978 Jim was the Military Advisor in the production of the movies "Wild Geese 2", "Blue Skies", "Body Snatchers" and had a part in the movie "Chips and the War Dog". Jim is survived by his former spouse Marie (they were planning to get remarried); two daughters, Helen Monaghan, Patricia Monaghan Wilson; two granddaughters, Amanda, Angie; one great granddaughter, Aubrey. There are tentative plans for a Memorial Service to be held at Fort Bragg. Burial will be held at Arlington National Cemetery at a date to be determined and announced by the Arlington Cemetery. James P was noted for always saying: "You might be out of sight, but you are never out of mind".

Robert William Dewey SOA #695, MSG, US Army (Ret), passed away on 1 December, 2012 in Fountain, Florida. Bob was born 3 September 1923. He was laid to rest 6 December 2012 at the Barrancas National Cemetery, Pensacola Naval Air Station. His Special Operations Career began in Korea with assignment to the 8240th AU (UNPIK) where he served as a Medic. Bob also served in the 77th, 7th and 1st Special Forces Group. While assigned to the 1st Group on Okinawa, he was further assigned to the Taiwan Resident Team. His medical Education included: PhD International Health, Nova Colleges, England, 1984; MPH Epidemiology UnivPittsburgh, 1970; BS Microbiology Univ Arkansas 1966. Professional Memberships: American Public Health Association; Malaysian Society of Parasitology & Tropical Medicine; National Council for International Health. Military Affiliations: Special Forces Association; Combat Medic Association; and VFW. Bob served in World War II from 1943-45 as a medical aid-man with the 13th FA Observation Bn in Europe where he received the Bronze Star. He also was awarded the Combat Medical Badge for his service in Korea. After attending college in Arkansas he became the NCOIC of the Dept of Epidemiology, SEATO Medical Research Lab in Bangkok where he studied the epidemiology and ecology of plague in Vietnam and plague surveillance and epidemiology and control of dengue fever and epidemiology of Reyes Syndrome in Thailand. He retired from the military in 1969. After military retirement, he taught and worked at the University California, San Francisco and also did more research on dengue fever and other diseases endemic to SouthEast Asia. He later moved to East Carolina University School of Allied Health and Social Professions, where he was an assistant professor of Community Health. Moving to Bay County Florida in '74, he taught high school biology and science. He went back to Thailand where he was a Peace Corps volunteer working as adviser and consultant to the Director of Rural Health Research and Training Center and also was on the faculty of Public Health, Mahidol University. He remained in Thailand until June '86, where he did much public health service and continued with his research. Returning to Florida, he volunteered at the Museum of Man in the Sea and did much research in the field of diving medicine as well as volunteering in other areas. In '89-'90 he went to Papua, New Guinea where he

was the Project Concern International Country Director and Woman's Health Care (Child Survival) program. He is the author or co-author as well as presenter, of many medical and research papers. Robert is survived by his wife Sirion and three adult children and one stepson. Bob is well known by SFA members not only for his service, but also for the many years he sponsored the Panama City Beach Bash which was attended by SFA members from all over the country.

Warren E. (Ed) Fisler, SOA #1933, MSG, USA (Ret) passed away November 15, 2012. He was born May 18, 1935 in Millville, New Jersey enlisted in the Army on February 4th, 1952. Served 23 years retiring as a Master Sergeant in August 1975. After basic training at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. was assigned to Regensburg, Germany with the 485th Combat Engineers as a demolition specialist and radio operator. Entered Special Forces training in March 1960 and assigned to the 7th Group until 31 December 1962. On 1 January 1963 was assigned to the 8th SFGA in Panama until June 1965. First Vietnam tour was July 1965 to June 1966. Was assigned to the 10th SFGA in Bad Tolz, Germany thru December 1968. A second Vietnam tour was from February 1969 thru September 1971 with the 5th SFGA Project Gamma and B-53. Then an ITT to the 46th Company in Thailand from September 1971 to September 1972. Was assigned to the 46th Co. SCUBA team for three months and then assigned to special projects for nine months. After leaving Thailand, Mrs. Billie Alexander said he had to go back to the USA for a hardship tour. Was assigned to Fort Devens, Ma. With the 10th SFGA until retirement in August 1975. After retirement, and finishing a year of college, accepted contract employment with the U.S. Government in Central America from 1979-1981. Further employment was accepted overseas in Kuwait as an ordinance disposal specialist in 1997 to 1998. Military education: 16 weeks basic training, Combat Engineer, VII Corps Signal School (CW), Field Radio Repair, Airborne, Special Forces/RTO and other SF commo courses, SCUBA, Jumpmaster, Special Forces Operations and Intelligence and SADEM. Awarded the Bronze Star, Air Medal and 16 other medals, ribbons and citations. CIB, Master Parachute Badge, Scuba Badge, Special Forces Tab and five foreign parachute badges

Kenneth F. Kubasik, SOA #874, passed away November 15, 2012.

Armando A Canales, SOA #980, SGM, USA (Ret) passed away October 30, 2012.

Ralph Gene Adcock, SOA #925, passed away on November 1, 2012.

David Ray Robinson, SOA #2584, passed away October 27, 2012 in Memphis VA Hospital. He served in MACV-SOG with RT Bushmaster and Oregon and as NKP medic.

John Flanagan, SOA #1887, BG, USAF (Ret) passed away October 21, 2012. John was born and raised in White Plains, NY where he graduated from Archbishop Stepinac High School. He then attended the University of Pennsylvania for one year before receiving an appointment to the United States Air Force Academy in 1958. While at the Academy, John was a member of the Academy's undefeated football team that was ranked 6th nationally and played in the Cotton Bowl. John majored in political science

and graduated in 1962 as a second lieutenant. He immediately entered pilot training, and upon graduation, was assigned as a combat crewmember at Otis AFB, where he began his life-long love affair with Cape Cod. In 1965, in the very early stages of the Vietnam War, John was among the first to answer the call to combat, volunteering for duty as a Forward Air Controller supporting elite Army units in close combat. John flew over 300 combat missions and, in recognition of his heroism and gallantry, he was awarded the Silver Star, two Distinguished Flying Crosses, twelve Air Medals and the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry. General Flanagan left the active Air Force in 1968 but continued his military career in the New York Air National Guard in a succession of key command positions in flying operations. In January 1986, he was appointed the Deputy Commander of the 6000 member New York Air National Guard and was promoted to Brigadier General in March 1989. John retired from the military in 1995 after 33 years of active, reserve and standby reserve service. He was a Command Pilot with over 4400 flying hours and, at the time of his retirement, was the most highly decorated officer in the New York ANG. John was equally distinguished and accomplished in his parallel business career where he held a series of demanding jobs in the transportation industry. He played an essential role in the introduction of the 747 airliner into commercial service with American Airlines; served as CFO of a Hertz trucking company in Europe; as Vice President and Treasurer of Holland America Lines; and in liquidating, as a Trustee, a failed common carrier. General Flanagan held an MBA from Boston College, is a graduate of the National Defense University and a Distinguished Graduate of the Air War College. He was an accomplished author and sought-after military commentator. His seminal work, "Vietnam above the Treetops", chronicled his exploits as Forward Air Controller in combat and was a Military Book Club main selection. His radio and TV interviews on military affairs have been featured on broadcast networks. Upon moving permanently into his Cape Cod summer home in Falmouth, John served as a Professor of Transportation and Logistics at Massachusetts Maritime Academy. He reveled in this job because it allowed him to share the importance of duty, integrity and commitment with the midshipmen he was instructing. John always emphasized the importance of community service and involvement as well as the virtue of giving back to society. He twice ran for Congress in New York; he has been a major financial benefactor of the Air Force Academy; and has generously donated his time and effort to Otis-related community service activities; the Wounded Warrior Foundation, as well as serving as the Chairman of the Falmouth Transportation Commission. An avid golfer, he organized the first and now annual TGC for the Troops charity golf tournament at his beloved home course, The Golf Club of Cape Cod in Falmouth. John has skied the Alps; soared the Rockies; surfed the Pacific; golfed in Bermuda; and parachuted into the South China Sea- feats most people only read about. But he never lost sight of the importance of nurturing and protecting his family and friends. In this vein he will be remembered for his bright blue eyes, his wry Irish smile and his open extended hand to those he felt he could help. John made all who knew him better and his memory will long endure. John is survived by his wife, Mari Jo Flanagan of Falmouth; his daughters Regina Flanagan of San Francisco, CA and Monica Flanagan Dapolito of Patterson, New York; his stepson, Lt. Colonel Nathan Scopac of Alexandria, VA; and his grandchildren, James Dysart and Noah and Olivia Scopac.

Leslie J. McKie, SOA #604, passed away on October 18, 2012

Gil Apodaca, SOA #88, passed away on October 12, 2012. As he requested, he was in the presence of his family and close friends and at his home in Oceanside in the hour of his passing. He left the earth quietly and peacefully. A career military man and special operations soldier (Green Beret), the sergeant was finally overwhelmed by AML (acute myeloid leukemia) -a cancer of the blood. The disease rapidly advanced over a 2-month period to eventually take his life. This was his third bout with cancer. Guilbaldo was the second son born to Francisco and Maria Luisa in El Centro, California. He was raised in the barrio of Carlsbad during WWII. His family included four brothers and three sisters. Guili attended Pine school in Carlsbad and Oceanside High School. But while in high school, he was compelled to serve our country and joined the military. His first military service was with the U.S. Marine Corp Reserves where he was sent to boot camp in San Diego. He was released from the Marines shortly after boot camp with a minority (underage) discharge. In January of 1951 Guili enlisted with the Army and was sent to basic training in Camp Roberts. He was then ordered to combat service in Korea. Upon his return from Korea, he was ordered to Fort Bragg, North Carolina in June of 1952. A year later he volunteered for airborne service with the 82nd Airborne Division. In early 1957, He was ordered to Germany and spent 3 years with the 3rd Army--Armored Field Artillery stationed in Budiegen. In 1960, he returned from Germany to Fort Bragg, North Carolina and was reassigned to the 82nd Airborne Division. In July 1962, Sergeant Apodaca volunteered for the Army Special Forces group, which gained prominence and presidential support as a tactical guerrilla force during John Kennedy's presidency. He went through rigorous training to earn his elite warrior status and prestigious "Green Beret". He was attached to the 7th Special Forces group in Fort Bragg. Sergeant Apodaca served in the Viet Nam conflict in 1964 stationed in Pleiku and again in 1968 and 1969 (12mos)—when the conflict was most serious. At this time he was with the 5th Special Forces Group. The Viet Nam conflict intensified during this period with the "Tet Offensive" that brought significant numbers from North Viet Nam to the South. Sergeant Apodaca was stationed Bhami Tut in the central highlands of South Viet Nam and was attached to the Special Forces Group's MAC-SOG. It was not uncommon for this detachment to venture into Laos and Cambodia for reconnaissance missions of enemy activities. Later, in this tour Sergeant Apodaca was involved with prisoner recovery operations operating from Saigon. In between the Viet Nam tours, Sergeant Apodaca was ordered to Panama, Canal Zone (1965-1968 and 1969-1971) and served the country with the 8th Special Forces Group. This service period took him to many Central and South American countries where he trained foreign military and performed other clandestine operations for the U.S. government. Sergeant Apodaca retired from the military in 1971 and achieved the rank of Master Sergeant (E-8). He closed his career in Fort Bragg North Carolina with the Special Forces. He returned to California in 1973 and later began a second career with the City of Vista-Public Works division. He eventually worked his way to supervisor role starting in the Parks department and completing his career with Streets maintenance department. During this period Gil performed a leadership role in the employee's union and was involved with union contract negotiations. Guili (Gil) met the love of his life Hortencia "Tencha" Granados from Vista while they were both in high school. The year was August 11, 1950. The passion of their romance was so compelling that Tencha joined Gil in his military life as wife and lifetime partner. They were married in Yuma, Arizona on August 23rd, 1953.

Three children were born of this love, Michael Dennis, Gil Charles, and Cynthia Ann. Gil and Tencha recently celebrated their 59th wedding anniversary last August 20th. Gil valued his family and it was the primary focal point of his life. He enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren and great grandchildren especially watching their sporting events. In retirement, Gil maintained relationships with his military comrades. He was involved with Retired Special Forces Southern California Chapters 12 (Orange County) and 75 (San Diego). He was also an honorary member of the Coachella Valley Airborne Association. In the end Gil has inspired his family with leadership and courage and will leave a proud legacy. For those whose lives he touched, he is remembered for his ability to easily engage others especially through humor. He is also remembered for his work ethic, creativity, and his ability to teach others to work and perform well together as a unit. Recognizing the value of education, one of his proudest achievements was to assist his granddaughter Felicia in the pursuit of her bachelor's degree, which she earned last spring. Gil is survived by his wife Tencha and three children Michael Apodaca, Gil Apodaca and Cindy Villalpando; brothers Gus Apodaca, Alfred Apodaca, and Jerry Apodaca; sisters Mary Hoover and Nancy Ridgeway. His surviving grandchildren include: Alexander Apodaca, Anthony Villalpando, Mariel Apodaca, Adam Apodaca Felicia Villalpando, and Andrew Apodaca. Surviving great grandchildren include: Anthony Villalpando Jr., Jordan Apodaca, Malia Villalpando, Makayla Villalpando, and Azalea Apodaca. Daughter-in-laws Rose Apodaca, Stephanie Apodaca, and son-in-law Jaime Villalpando also survive him. He is further survived by a large extended family of nieces, nephews, grand and great grand nieces and nephews. Preceding Gil in death are his beloved mother Maria Luisa Apodaca, father Francisco Apodaca, uncle Phillip Cabrera, sister Jenny Abdulla, brother Gilbert Apodaca, sister-in-law Claire Apodaca, nephew Ronnie Apodaca, and great grandson Austin Villalpando.

Maurice T. "Red" Davis, SOA # 2160, passed away October 11, 2012 at the age of 81. Because of his red hair, he was known to his friends as "Red". Red was born in Red Bluff, California on September 20, 1931. Red was the oldest of four brothers and one sister. He grew up in Northern California and moved to Oregon in 1977. Red received an Associate's Degree from Shasta College in Redding, California. Red entered into the California Army National Guard in 1950 and spent ten years in the Guard and Army Reserve before entering the Active Army in 1960. Red served ten years in the Active Army including three tours in Viet Nam. He retired from the Army after 20 years of combined service at the rank of Major with the U S Army Special Forces (Green Berets). Red worked as a tractor foreman and later a tour bus driver. Red learned several languages including Spanish, Tai, laotian, Korean and Viet-Nameese. Red had a strong personality and could be very charming when he wanted to be. Red would want to be remembered as a hardworking man, who loved his family and served his country honorably. Red is survived by his wife Nancy, after 59 years of marriage and six son's Trow, Pete, Chris, Jack, Shawn and Jeff. Red also had thirteen grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Red touched many people in his life and he will be missed.

Ronlad L. Olson SOA #2651, passed away September 20, 2012.

Jack G Halladay, SOA #2905, SGM (Ret), passed away on September 12, 2012.

Mitch Bacher, SOA #2769, passed away September 2012.

Charles W. Bacon, SOA #1325, passed away July 14, 2012 at age 72.

Thomas S. Myerchin, SOA #2872, COL, US Army (Ret), Family man, scholar, soldier, and hero...died Tuesday, May 15, 2012 in Goodlettsville, TN. This gracious, caring and generous man was guided throughout his life by a strong and abiding faith. Col. Myerchin, U. S. Army retired, served his country courageously for thirty-one years in the Special Forces; and continued to serve his fellow soldiers through at least five different volunteer groups in Middle, Tennessee. Myerchin was the second son of Joe and Laura Myerchin of Grand Forks, North Dakota. He is survived by his devoted wife, Barbara LaFollette Myerchin; son and daughter-in-law, Thomas Schiller Myerchin, Jr. and Cinthya Blanchard of Port St. Lucie, FL; brothers, John and William Myerchin; sister, Catherine Erickson; and numerous nieces and nephews who loved and admired him.

Hue V. Tran, SOA #1133, passed away on April 16, 2012 In Los Angeles County, California.

Jack L. Bonner, SOA #2410, passed away April 5, 2012.

Earl Trabue, SOA #1056, LTC (Ret), passed away April 1, 2012 in Albany, OR.

Lyle G. Sloan, SOA #1509, passed away March 9, 2012.

Alvin Davis III, SOA #2998, 1Sgt (Ret), 65, of Fayetteville, died Wednesday, Feb. 8, 2012. Services: Memorial, 2 p.m. Monday in Special Forces Association Lodge. Survived by: Wife, Melinda; sons, David Holcomb, Shawn, Michael and Benjamin; daughter, Cynthia Holcomb; brother, Christopher; and sisters, Lauralee West and Patrice Derantany. Rogers and Breece Funeral Home of Fayetteville.

Rex L. Jaco, SOA #2082, passed away on Jan 28, 2012.

Kenneth E. McMullin, SOA #127, SGM (Ret), passed away on December 25, 2011. He was born in 1940 in California. He enlisted in the California Army National Guard on February 21, 1960, and went on active duty in the U.S. Army as a Combat Engineer on December 31, 1962, serving until December 14, 1965. SP5 McMullin served in the U.S. Army Reserve from December 15, 1965, until returning to active duty on January 31, 1966. His next assignment was as a Demolition Specialist with Company E, 7th Special Forces Group at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, from April to December 1966, followed by service as a Demolition Sergeant with Company B, 5th Special Forces Group in South Vietnam from December 1966 to October 1967. Sgt McMullin served as an Operations Sergeant with the 5th Special Forces Group in South Vietnam from October 1967 to September 1969, and then as an Intelligence Sergeant with the 46th Special Forces Company in Thailand from September 1968 to October 1969. His next assignment was as an Operations and Intelligence Sergeant with the 6th Special Forces Group at Fort

Bragg from October 1969 to January 1970, followed by service with Company C, U.S. Army Special Forces Training Group at Fort Bragg from January 1970 to March 1971. During this time, SSG McMullin served on Action Element #2 with the Blueboy Assault Group during the Son Tay Raid, a clandestine mission to rescue American Prisoners of War in North Vietnam on November 21, 1970. He served as a Reconnaissance Team Leader and Airborne Controller with the U.S. Army Vietnam Training Advisory Group in South Vietnam from March 1971 to February 1972, and then served as an Intelligence NCO and Training NCO with the 46th Special Forces Company and the U.S. Army Special Forces Training Group in Thailand from February 1972 to March 1973. His next assignment was as the Senior Special Forces Instructor with the Special Forces Detachment at the U.S. Army Institute for Military Assistance at Fort Bragg from April 1973 to March 1975, followed by service as Operations Sergeant and then Assistant Chief Operations NCO with the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg from March 1975 to November 1976. MSG McMullin served as an Operations Sergeant with Company A, 3rd Battalion of the 5th Special Forces Group at Fort Bragg from December 1976 to August 1982, and then as Operations and Training NCO with Headquarters Joint Special Operations Command at Fort Bragg from August 1982 to September 1984. His next assignment was as Detachment Sergeant Major and then Company Sergeant Major with Company A, 3rd Battalion of the 7th Special Forces Group at Fort Davis, Panama, from September 1984 to December 1989, followed by service as Company Sergeant Major with Company B, 1st Battalion of the 7th Special Forces Group at Fort Bragg from January 1990 to January 1991. His final assignment was as Battalion Command Sergeant Major with 2nd Battalion of the 3rd Special Forces Group at Fort Bragg from January 1991 until his retirement from the Army on November 1, 1992.

Vernon Fredrick "Fred" Winters, SOA #386, of Port Charlotte, FL passed away December 6, 2011. Born Sept. 3, 1946, in Akron, Ohio, to Vernon and Harriet Winters. he lived all over the world as his father spent a lifetime serving in the Army. Winters himself served 27 years in the U.S. Army Special Forces. He was a decorated veteran with honors including the Silver Star, Legion of Merit, four Bronze Stars, including one with valor, and two Purple Hearts. He also held a master's degree in marketing. Fred spent his last years as a fishing guide and professional angler in the IFA, FLW and ESPN Redfish Cup.

Carl (Ed) Evanhoe, SOA #1069, formerly of Topeka, KS, passed away on October 13, 2011 in Antlers, OK. He was born April 4, 1932 in Henryetta, OK to Bernard M. (Bob) and Clara M. Evanhoe. He joined the US Army in late 1949 serving until 1966 and was a veteran of the Korean War. He had numerous commendations and awards, most notably the Korean Partisan Honor Medal, awarded to Korean and American personnel who served with the 8086th and 8240th Army Units during the Korean War. He was life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and Special Operations Association. After leaving the Army, he worked in construction until his retirement. Ed was married to Delpia Turner Evanhoe in 1972. She survives along with his three children from his first marriage to Kyoko Takata, Charles E. (Chuck) Evanhoe of Dayton, OH; Mark E. Evanhoe of Topeka, KS; Michiko (Michi) Snell of Topeka, KS and five grandchildren. His remains were interred at Mt. Hope Cemetery in Topeka, KS with his parents.

James (Jim) McElroy, SOA # 684, passed away Wednesday, October 12, 2011. He was born in Norton, VA on February 25, 1939, the son of the late Lester and Paralee Hill McElroy. Jim moved to Gate City in 1950. He was a Shoemaker High School graduate and attended Fork Union Military Academy on a football scholarship playing for two years and becoming captain in his final year. Upon graduating from Fork Union Military Academy in 1958, he attended the University of Mississippi, also on a football scholarship, before entering the United State Army during the Vietnam War. He became a paratrooper, a Ranger, and a Green Beret having served with distinction. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother, Albert Nicholas (Nick) McElroy and nephew, Corey McElroy. He is survived by his sons, Cortney (Cort) McElroy, Phoenix, AZ and Carter McElroy and wife, Pam, San Diego, CA; sister, Patsy Durham and husband, Roy, Gate City, VA; sister-in-law, Nancy B. McElroy, Weber City, VA; fiancée, Katherine Tignor, Gate City, VA; niece, Christy McElroy Bradshaw and husband, Taylor, Gate City, VA; nephew, Brent Montgomery and wife, Kristen; one great niece; 6 great nephews; a step niece and step nephew.

Joseph Son Van Le, SOA #2782, passed away September 12, 2011. He was born 1948 in North VN. In 1954 his family moved to South VN in order to escape the communist regime. He joined SOG in 1967, was trained at Long Thanh, Kham Duc VN., and was transferred to FOB #3 Command & Control South (CCS). He became a Spike Team member of Spike Team Measure. He ran many reconnaissance missions and was lightly wounded several times. He ran so many missions, he was a real hero for C&C Detachment, 5th Special Forces (Airborne) in VN. In April 1972 Son was honorably discharged from Special Forces and went back to his home in Dalat. After April 1975 when the NVA took over SVN, Son and his family's lives were threatened by the communist government; they were hidden and were anxious for their family because he served in SOG.

Derald R. Bunnell, SOA #1243, passed away Thursday, Sept. 8, 2011.

Allen Terrell "Thom" Thompson III, SOA #1941, LTC (Ret), age 71, of Blue Ridge, GA passed away Tuesday, September 6, 2011. He was a member of Alpharetta Presbyterian Church. Lt. Col. Terrell was the only officer to have dual command of the Desert and Mountaineering phases of Ranger School and 5th RTB based at Camp F D Merrell in Dahlenega, GA. He served three tours in Vietnam as a Green Beret earning three Bronze Stars, one Silver Star and an Air Medal. He was a Jumpmaster with the 82nd Airborne and he served with Delta Force, 5th Special Forces Group, 12th Special Forces Group, 2nd Ranger Battalion, 172nd Brigade. He also served as Commander of the 32nd Battalion of the 7th Infantry Division and was a member of the 23rd Infantry Division and the 75th Rangers 5th Battalion. He was a soldier's soldier. Survivors include his loving wife of 50 years, Virginia Terrell of Macon; daughter and son-in-law, Lisa and Matt Nyberg of Lincoln, NE; their daughters, Catherine and Sarah; son and daughter-in-law, Chip and Dee Dee Terrell of Dawsonville and their daughters, Morgan and Chelsea.

Donald J. "Corky" Shelton, SOA #2237, MSG (Ret), passed away July 31, 2011 at the age of 65. He served in the U.S. Navy and U.S. Army Special Forces with numerous decorations, medals, and citations. He was a Vietnam veteran. He is survived by his wife and two sons.

Maurice L. Brakeman, SOA #1408, MSG (Ret), passed away June 28, 2011 in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Brake enlisted in the Army in 1961 and was assigned as signalman and radio operator in the 25th Infantry Division. After spending 5 months in Thailand, Brake volunteered for a three month 'shotgun' assignment to Vietnam as a door gunner out of Pleiku. He saw extensive combat during this short tour and earned three air medals. He also became acquainted with Special Forces operations in II Corps and re-enlisted for Airborne and Special Forces in 1964. After graduating from the SF weapons course, Brake spent 18 months with the 10th SF Group in Bad Toelz. In January 1966, Brake reported to the 5th SFGA in Vietnam and volunteered for Project Delta. Brake was wounded, impaled on a punji stake while inserting on a recon mission, and evacuated to the States. Upon his recovery he was sent to language school and on to the 8th SF Group in Panama. His next assignment was with B Co., 75th Rangers at Fort Carson. From there it was back to Vietnam in January 1970. Brake again volunteered for another tour with Project Delta and remained with them until the Project closed down in June. He had the distinction of running the last recon mission of the Project's history with Roy Sprouse out of FOB Mai Loc. After the Project shut down, Brake went to the 5th Mobile Strike Force, B-55. He remained there for the balance of his tour. After stints with the 19th Special Forces Group in Missoula and the JCRC (Joint Casualty Resolution Center) in Thailand, Brake returned to Vietnam for the fourth time. It, too, was a JCRC assignment that quickly turned into a planning mission for the evacuation of the civilians remaining in country. His last task was the gruesome search and recovery of remains from the evacuation flight of civilians and children from Saigon that crashed during an emergency return after takeoff. Brake was again medically evacuated, suffering chemical burns from hydraulic fluids leaked during the crash. Brake finished his career with assignments to a refugee camp in Thailand; another tour with the 10th Group as team sergeant for ODA 7, the SADM team; and a final assignment as ROTC instructor in Moscow, ID. Maurice Brakeman requested no formal service and his cremated remains were scattered on the Moyie River in northern Idaho, close to his home, on 30 June. MSG Brakeman is survived by brother Errol Brakeman, and children; Traci Jones, Marion "Erik" Brakeman (CSM), Tanya Brakeman, and Matthew Brakeman.

Robert R. Brown, SOA #2157, age 78, of Jackson died Sunday, May 15, 2011 at Leisure Chateau Care Center in Lakewood. Born in Brooklyn, NY, he spent time there and Brockton, MA as a child. When he joined the service he traveled to Germany, England, Korea, Vietnam and all over the United States. Bob lived in Lakewood for 24 years before moving to Jackson 2 years ago. Bob served in the US Army for from 1951-1974 serving in both the Korean and Vietnam Wars. He was a scout dog handler with the 39th Infantry Platoon in Bien Hoa, Vietnam with his dog, Budda and received many military medals including a Bronze Star. Bob was a very talented Pen & Ink artist, and was a guest artist for Marvel Comics, drawing Conan the Barbarian and The

Submariner. Most recently, he worked as a Housekeeping Supervisor for Deborah Heart & Lung Center in Browns Mills for 12 years. Bob was a member of the Vietnam Dog Handler Association and a Life Member of the Special Operations Association. He was a great husband and lived a full and colorful life. Bob was predeceased by his parents, Walter and Margaret (nee Coughlin) Brown. He is survived by his wife, Alexa Michel; a sister, Barbara Sheridan and several nieces and nephews.

John R. Perchard, Jr, SOA #341, LTC (Ret), passed away on May 09, 2011 at his home in Marston Mills, MA.

George W. Petrie, Jr., SOA #818, MAJ (Ret), passed away on April 15, 2011. He was born on June 21, 1939, in Lenoir, North Carolina. He enlisted in the U.S. Army on June 23, 1958, and attended basic training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina. After completing Jump School he was assigned to the 319th Field Artillery Battalion of the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. From 1959 to 1960, Petrie was assigned to the 20th Field Artillery Battalion of the 1st Cavalry Division, and he then served with the 503rd Airborne Infantry Battalion of the 82nd Airborne until 1961. Sgt Petrie next served as a radio operator and light weapons specialist with the 5th Special Forces Group from 1961 to 1963, and he was deployed to the Republic of Vietnam in 1963. He then served with the 8th Special Forces Group in Panama, deploying to the Dominican Republic in 1965, followed by another tour in South Vietnam with the 5th Special Forces Group from 1967 to 1968. Petrie then served with the 3rd and the 6th Special Forces Groups, receiving a direct commission to 1st Lt on January 23, 1970. Lt Petrie participated in the Son Tay Raid on November 21, 1970, and was the first person on the ground after the controlled crash landing of his HH-3E. He again served in Vietnam in 1971 where he participated in various Bright Light missions to recover POWs. Capt Petrie was assigned to the 5th Special Forces Group from 1971 to 1973, and served in Southeast Asia with the Joint Casualty Resolution Center from 1974 to 1975. During this time, he helped plan the evacuation of Saigon and was on one of the last helicopters out of the American Embassy. His next assignment was as Operations Officer for the 35th Infantry Battalion of the 25th Infantry Division at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, from 1975 to 1976, followed by service back at the Joint Casualty Resolution Center at Barbers Point, Hawaii, from 1976 until his retirement from the Army on June 1, 1980. After retiring from the Army, George worked for Electronic Data Systems with Ross Perot in Dallas, Texas, and also for various Law Enforcement agencies in Texas. During this time, he also owned a Private Investigation and Security Company and was the President of Chapter 31 of the Special Forces Association for 19 years. In 2007, George was awarded the Gold Order of Saint Philip Neri, the U.S. Army Special Forces' highest award for his accomplishments in the Special Forces. He was buried at the Dallas Fort Worth National Cemetery in Dallas, Texas, on April 27, 2011. His awards include Two Silver Stars, the Legion of Merit, Two Bronze Stars one with V, Two Purple Hearts.

Dennis C. Davis, SOA #451, a retired hotel management professional, passed away Friday, March 11, 2011. Dennis was born May 12, 1946, in Payson, Utah, to Albert and LaVerta Davis. After graduating from Spanish Fork High School, he joined the U.S. Army and proudly served his country in Vietnam. Dennis then moved to Las Vegas in

1970 to attend UNLV where he earned his BS degree in hotel administration. This began a 30 year career in the Las Vegas hospitality industry where he worked in various hotel management positions at the Landmark, Aladdin, Maxim, Boomtown, Stardust and Imperial Palace Hotels

John Throckmorton, Jr, SOA #2762, 68, of Port Charlotte, Florida died of a massive heart attack on February 17, 2011. He was in his home in Port Charlotte when he passed. His remains were cremated by the Southeastern Crematory on 17 March 2011. Jack was born in Marshfield, Oregon on 24 Dec 1943. His father was John Throckmorton, Sr. of Richmond, Va. and his mother was Ruth Aid of New Cumberland, Pennsylvania, both now deceased. Jack is survived by his ex-wife - Jane Miller of West Palm Beach Florida whom he married in 1983. He is also survived by his two twins: daughter Amanda, son Ross - both 28 and older son Miles 34. They all currently reside in the Palm Beach area of Florida. Jack graduated from Davidson College in North Carolina in 1965. He joined the Army as a private in 1964. He completed Officer Candidate School in 1966 and was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant. He then was promoted in rapid succession to 1st Lieutenant, Captain and Major - all in the U.S. Army Ordnance Corps. While in the military, Jack's main focus was on nuclear Weapons Storage and Planning. Later, Jack served a tour in Vietnam during 1966-67 and developed a close association with U.S. Army Special Forces Camps in the III Corps Tactical War Zone. He directly supported the III Corps Mike Force (Detachment A302, - 3rd Nung Battalion, Abn.) by participating in their patrols deep in VC and North Vietnamese Army strongholds. While in several of these firelights, he assisted in the extraction of a number of Special Forces personnel from extremely deadly situations. He personally suffered wounds while assisting the extraction of specified patrol elements - and he saved lives. His broader mission while in Vietnam was to develop and test experimental munitions for infantry units. These included enhancements to the existing "Claymore Mine" and various alternatives for achieving mass enemy casualties. Finally- at the end of his military career, he was one of only six commanding officers- Army wide- to command field nuclear weapons (Supply Ammunition) companies in the U.S. Army. Jack left the Service in 1971 when he resigned to become more involved in maritime operations and more importantly - seamanship. In the years 1970's through 2011, Jack crewed on custom sport fishing boats from Ocean City, Maryland to Key West, Florida and the Bahamas. He obtained a U.S. Coast Guard Captain's license, and captained for researchers in the first Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute effort to tag and study the migration of juvenile Atlantic Blue-fin tuna. He captained sport fishing boats and motor yachts for various yacht brokers, Fortune 500 corporations and private individuals, both U.S. and foreign. Jack most often - operated in the waters off Canada, the Atlantic seaboard, the Gulf of Mexico, the Quintana Roo, Mexico, the entire Bahamas, the Turks and the Caicos, Cuba, Hispaniola, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, East Coast of Nicaragua and the Sea of Cortez. He made numerous long range U.S. and foreign cargo deliveries through Atlantic and Gulf Intracoastal Waterway trips. Jack provided services in the areas of crew management, safety, logistical planning, communications and negotiation with foreign officials, and other duties consistent with the prudent and seamanlike operations of sea-going vessels. He loved the sea and all duties associated with being on the water! Jack's professional maritime awards were

well earned and publicized. He was recognized by the State of Florida and the National Maritime Association for Jack also earned kudos for his service in the Vietnam War. His military awards and decorations include; the National Defense Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Vietnam Service Medal, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with 60 dev the Army Commendation Medal and the Good Conduct Medal (two awards). More recently, he became an amateur military historian who reconstructed numerous combat events of unique Special Forces Units, This research provide Army Decorations Boards with the evidence to identify various Army heroes for eventual recognition in dispatches. Jack's ashes were spread on the waters off Port Charlotte on 15 April 2011 where he often sailed while the Captain of commercial vessels. The remainder of his ashes were spread in the desert near Las Vegas, Nevada in September 2011.

Dallas Longstreath, SOA #1207, passed away Tuesday February 8, 2011 at Audie Murphy V.A. Hospital in San Antonio, Texas. He was a long time member of the Special Operations Association. I was unaware of the heroic actions of Dallas Longstreath III since he never spoke of his deeds in Vietnam. It was quite evident by the number of telephone calls and emails that he had been instrumental in saving many lives of SOG personnel while acting at "Covey" for many recon insertions. Dallas was an unpretentious, selfless and a true "quite Professional". It was a pleasure knowing him for many years and we will cherish his memory forever. It was my distinct honor to render the eulogy at his memorial service. I was asked by John S. (tilt) to read a letter that he wrote about his long time friend; he wrote, At last year's SOG reunion, I proudly introduced Dallas to my wife as the man who had saved my life on my last recon mission that I ran with CCN in April 1970. On that mission, we had a four-man team inserted into the A Chau Valley. Within a few hours after insertion, we began to receive fire from a large enemy force that had pinpointed our location. After we sustained equipment failure, I requested and extraction for our team. The base commander, flying over the AO at a "high altitude", refused our request. I then heard Dallas urging him to pull us out. After refueling, Dallas returned and told us that he had ordered "slicks" to get us out immediately. In his unique Southern drawl, I heard Dallas say that he would answer any questions from that "asshole" concerning his actions on our extraction! All of the aircraft that worked the target sustained enemy fire as did our team as the slicks pulled us out on ropes! Dallas epitomized all that is right and brave about Special Forces men. Dallas put his live on the line many times saving many recon buddies. May God rest his soul and forever bless his family. Attending the memorial were George Hunt from Oklahoma and Jim Graves and his wife from Victoria, Texas. George also eulogized Dallas and stated that the reason that he was alive was because Dallas had also saved him on an insertion. I received other similar messages from his SOG companions praising him for his actions and bravery. I wish to thanks all the members of our chapter for their outstanding support, compassion and dignity in providing their assistance to the family. We will never forget you brother. Your work here on earth is done, go and rest forever in God's mansion. "you were a good guy, you". Mando (Red Bird) Canales, President, Green Beret Chapter XV

Eulis A. Presley, SOA #830, SFC (Ret), passed away Dec 9, 2010. SFC Presley served in the Army from July 1958 to June 1981 and in the Regiment from 1965 to

1981. He served in a wide variety of positions and made tremendous contributions with the 1st, 5th, and 6th Special Forces Groups, MACVSOG, the Special Warfare Center, and with 1st SFOD-D. SFC Presley entered Special Forces in 1965 and was assigned to the 6th Special Forces Group (Airborne) upon completing the Special Forces Qualification Course. In 1967 he was assigned to the 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne) where, as a Staff Sergeant, he was the Company Commander of Second Company, A-503 Nha Trang Mike Force. In 1968 he became the Company Commander of 6th Company, B-55 Nha Trang Mike Force and led his company on numerous missions supporting beleaguered A Detachments and other Special Forces units in heavy contact with the enemy in the I, II, and III Corps Tactical Zones. In 1968 he was reassigned to the 1st Special Forces Group (Airborne) on Okinawa and was sent in March 1969 on temporary duty to the MACV SOG Command and Control South in Vietnam as a member of a Snakebite Team. He was the One Zero of Recon Team Vise and led his team on a successful operation to capture a North Vietnamese prisoner of war in Cambodia west of the Fishhook area of Vietnam. He was then transferred to the MACV SOG Command and Control North (CCN) in May 1969 and was written about in John Plaster's book SOG. Presley was the One Zero of RT Kansas when marauding MiGs caused him to abort a North Vietnam Bright Light mission attempting to reach the Red River Valley. Every time they entered North Vietnam airspace they had to turn back because MiG-21s came up to intercept. In June 1969 One Zero Presley's RT Kansas was tasked to locate and interdict an NVA POL Pipeline in CCN's Target area Oscar Eight. He inserted his team west of Ashau Valley to hunt along Highway 922. Presley returned to the 1st Special Forces Group (Airborne) on Okinawa and in January 1970 he volunteered for another PCS tour of duty in RVN and was assigned to MACVSOG Command and Control Central (CCC), 5th SFGA. In April 1970 SFC Presley became the One Zero of RT Washington at CCC. SSG Presley left the Army in 1971 but returned a year later where he was assigned as an Army Recruiter in the Chicago, IL, area and encouraged enlistees to become Special Forces Soldiers. From 1973 to 1977, Presley was assigned as to the Special Forces School as an Advisor and Instructor to officer and enlisted students in Phase I and Phase III of the Special Forces Qualification Course. From 1977 to 1979 he was assigned as an Evaluator and Advisor to the Eskimo Scout program in Alaska where he was of great assistance in providing that program with reconnaissance and unconventional warfare skills that they had not previously possessed. In 1979 and until his retirement in 1981, he was assigned to the 1st Special Forces Operational Detachment-Delta. In that organization, he created innovative intelligence and briefing techniques that pioneered efforts for what has become the Global War on Terror. He helped to design the Evasion and Escape kits used on the fateful attempt to rescue 53 American hostages in Tehran, Iran, in 1980.

Fred Wayne Lawley, SOA #1772, COL (Ret), passed away Nov. 25, 2010 11 AM at home. I was told that he died peacefully in his sleep. We have lost another great Special Forces soldier. As I recall, Wayne served in 5th SFG(A), was the recipient of the DSC, and was the President of the Special Forces Association for four (4) years. I remember when he organized, and we supported him, the "COL Aaron Bank Walk" a few years back. Services will be at Red Oak Baptist Church 2791 Hwy 290 at 1 PM on Tuesday. The VFW will host a luncheon after the services.

George M. Yosich, SOA #619, CSM (Ret), of Lehigh Acres, FL. passed away October 23, 2010 at Gulf Coast Medical Center. He was born October 3, 1928 in Newark, New Jersey. Leaving his loving Wife Fior Yosich; five children, Jo Means (Don), Donna Jean Presley (Will), Tina Price, Michael George Yosich and Liz Holland (Leo); also two Grandchildren, Travis Holland (Keely) and Ashley Price; Sister Julie Zubak (Steve); Nephew, Rick Zubak (Lorelie), Sherry Bean (Robert), Robert Yosich (Renee); cousin, JR Yovannvich (June); two Grand-nephews and two Grand-nieces. George retired as a Command Sergeant Mayor of the US Army in Special Forces Green Berets, Airborne for 28 years. He was an "original" member of Special Forces having joined the 10th SFG at Fort Bragg. He also served with the 8240th AU (UNPFK) in Korea, and was subsequently assigned to the 2d Partisan Infantry Regiment, Kan Wa Do Island, South Korea. His medals included the Purple Heart. George was a kind- hearted, easy going, adorable Husband, Father and friend. He has friends all over the world and continued making more even to the end. Anyone who got to meet him loved him. He always had a smile and a hand shake to offer. He was always available to anyone who needed him. His quote, "there aren't any strangers, it's just haven't met them yet." He will forever be in our hearts; family and friends both, he will continue to in us all, and he has left a mark in all of us that he has touched. Honorable service will be held at Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell, FL.

Charlie "Cowboy" Bishop, SOA #2570, passed away Friday, October 8, 2010. Charlie had fought a long battle with cancer and in the past ten months had been in and out of the hospital. Mary advised Charlie will be buried at a local Veterans Cemetery in Muskogee, Oklahoma. No information was available on date and time of funeral. Mary expressed Charlie's love of Special Forces and his life time support of our military.

Harold S. Freeman, SOA #1144, Master Chief Petty Officer, 85, a resident of Glen Burnie since 1975, died September 17 2010 due to cancer. He was born in Great Falls, Mont., at tending Montana State College where he studied electrical engineering, and also had 18 post graduate credits from Yale University in Far Eastern Languages. He served 32 years in the U.S. Navy, taking part in three wars. After his retirement from the Navy, he became Vice President of E.G. Jones Associates and managed their firm in Rockville until his retirement in 1986. Master Chief Freeman was highly decorated with over thirty medals and many citations from the Silver Star, for service during World War II to Navy Combat Actions to Vietnam's Armed Forces Meritorious with Crossed Palms for Gallantry. He was authorized the Navy Seal Special Warfare Breast Insignia along with Naval Parachutist and Naval Air crewman. His service included over 2000 hours of mission flying in addition to many jumps and years of extremely hazardous duty in peacetime and in wartime, starting with UDT teams in World War II. He served above five submarines performing hazardous missions, as well as a destroyer and an aircraft carrier. He flew in almost all of the Navy's aircraft during his 32 years, ranging from ancient PBY's to jet A3 attack bombers to numerous Naval Security Group communication assignments. He was the Navy's senior enlisted linguist upon retirement and fluent in Chinese Mandarin, conversational in Cantonese, Russian, German and other languages. He was considered an expert in Far Eastern reconnaissance with

surface, subsurface and air missions against worldwide targets. His background living among his Blackfoot Indian friends in Montana in addition to his training in multiple service survival schools made him a recognized expert on survival techniques in the mountains, jungle, arctic, desert, at high altitude and at sea. His interests after retirement were reading history, computers and weaponry. He was a life member of the prestigious Special Operations Association, Fraternal Order of UDT/SEAL Fleet Reserve Annapolis Branch, Disabled American Veterans Post 13, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 160, China Post #1 of American Legion, E9 Association of Fort Meade, U.S. Marine Corps Force Recon Association, and the U.S. Army Special Forces Association. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Audrey Ellen Freeman; three children, Charlein Petro, Janice Brinson and Harold Ross Freeman; and two grandchildren, Ross and Marcy Brinson.

Donald Devere, SOA #018, passed at 3:00 AM August 28, 2010. Don was an original member of Special Forces and was one of the early members of our Association. Those of us who have served with Don are aware of his professionalism as a Special Forces Soldier. He was the consummate "Quiet Professional". In 1966 and 1967 Don served in MACVSOG. Don as the Recon Team Leader or "One-Zero" of Team Oregon, trained his team to perfection and then led it into numerous target areas in Laos. Don and Special Forces Soldiers like him are the legend in the "Legendary" of MACV Studies and Observations Group operations. Don was not a stranger to the other elite units in the 5th SFGA. As the First Sergeant of the Project Delta Reconnaissance Company, Don led by example and kept his finger in the operational mix. On one operation, his team made contact and required extraction under duress. When Don's son, assigned as a gunship pilot in the 281st Assault Helicopter Company heard that his dad was in trouble, he flew his gunship out and participated in the extraction of the team. Don had a panel marker inside his hat and when his son identified it, Don told his son to shoot everything around the orange dot. Don was a true "Warrior". A quiet man, cool under fire and accomplished in all aspects of the Warrior ethos. His professional demeanor and competence inspired those around him. He was exactly what you would expect a twenty year Special Forces "Quiet Professional" and a "Warrior", to be. Don's wife, Mary Ann, sons and daughter were at his side when he passed to that special place where Warriors gather on the other side.

William O. Hill, Jr., SOA #1206, 86, of Harbor Creek, Pa., was honorably discharged into the next life on Monday, August 2, 2010, at the VA Hospital in Erie. He was born on November 12, 1923 in Erie, Pa. to the late William O. Hill, Sr. and Lucy (Owens) Hill. Bill was a graduate of East High School and volunteered for the U.S. Army upon the bombing of Pearl Harbor. He was initially trained as a combat engineer at Ft. Belvoir, Va., and also successfully completed engineer officer training. Bill was then deployed to North Africa where he and his men successfully fought the famous German "Afrika Korps." Following combat against Germany, Bill volunteered for a secret mission (code name Galahad) and unknowingly became a "Merrill's Marauder" in the 5307th Composite Unit (Provisional), 2nd BN, I & Plt., BCT under Brigadier General Frank D. Merrill. This special unit was the first U.S. Infantry unit to fight the Japanese in the China-Burma-India Theatre and Bill repeatedly distinguished himself in combat. The

Merrill's Marauders were the predecessors to all modern day U.S. Army Rangers and Special Warfare. Following WW II, Bill returned to the U.S. where he taught Guerilla Warfare and worked counter-intelligence throughout the U.S. and Europe during the "denazification" of Germany and start of the Cold War. As the Korean War broke out, Bill again entered combat as a platoon leader with the 2nd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment (Airborne). During WW II and the Korean War, Bill was awarded the Silver Star, Bronze Star (with cluster), three Purple Hearts, two Army Commendation Medals, American Defense Medal, American Campaign Medal, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal (4 Battle Stars), Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal (4 Battle Stars), WW II Medal, Army of the Occupation of Germany Medal, Korean Service Medal (2 Battle Stars), Army Good Conduct Medal, and Chinese Freedom Medal. Bill was also awarded Master Parachute Wings and a Combat Infantrymen's Badge (Three Awards), as well as several Presidential Unit Citations. Following the Korean War, Bill returned to the U.S. and eventually pursued a successful political career in Erie County Government. Bill was a progressive leader as a County Commissioner, serving from 1963-1978. During his tenure, he was instrumental in the establishment of many county programs, including GECAC, Erie County MH/MR, Rape Crisis, and the Public Defender's Office. Bill fought vigorously to stop pollution in Lake Erie and was also the PA State Fish Commissioner for Region I. He was the President of the Erie County Prison Board and worked with the World Health Organization throughout his career. He was a member of the first Erie County Council and finished his career serving as the Director of Veteran's Affairs. Bill was adopted by the Seneca Nation of Indians in 1964, and maintained life memberships in the Burma Star Assn., Combat Infantrymen's Assn., U.S. Army Ranger Assn., Special Operations Assn. (SOA), Special Forces Assn., Military Order of the Purple Heart, American Legion Carl Neff Post #571, VFW Post 4789, Chapel of the Four Chaplains, U.S. Army Counter Intelligence Corps Veterans, Disabled American Veterans, and was a 32nd Degree Mason. Bill was preceded in death by his wife of over 60 years, Lorraine E. (Alm) Hill; son, Joseph A. Hill; grandson, SSgt. William J. Hill, U.S. Army; grandson, Joseph A. Hill, Jr.; and granddaughter, Toni Lynn Hill. Survivors include son, William W. Hill, and wife, Diane, of Kane, Pa.; daughter, Sue A. Vrenna, and husband, Jack, of Lawrence Park, Pa.; son, Robert W. Hill, and wife, Ruth, of Corry, Pa.; son, Roger L. Hill, and wife, Georgia, of Harbor Creek, Pa.; son, Michael T. Hill, and wife, Debbie, of Harbor Creek, Pa.; 13 grandchildren; 28 great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; as well as extended family.

Terry Swafford, SOA #2481, Command Sergeant Major Terry Swafford, 69, passed away July 31, 2010. He was born Nov. 26, 1940 in Steele, Mo., and was a nine year resident of Nevada. Terry served 27 years in the US Army with 20 years as an Army Special Forces member. His assignments included tours in Vietnam, Fort Bragg, Fort Benning and Fort Bliss and as the CSM of Detachment A, in Berlin, Germany. After his retirement, Terry worked for the Fayetteville, NC Police Department and the US Embassy in Germany. He was a life member of the Special Forces Association Chapter 51 and the DAV of Las Vegas. His awards included the Bronze Star with two oak Leaf Clusters, the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Metal, Vietnam Cross of Gallantry, Combat Infantry Badge, Master Parachute Badge and the Special Forces Tab. Terry is

survived by his wife of 48 years, Hanneiore; brother, Jerry B.; sisters. Pat Spicer and Joyce Qualis; and numerous nieces and nephews. Donations can be made to: Disabled American Veterans Sunrise Mountain #13.

FOREST EARL TODD, SOA #124GL, Passed away June 18, 2010. Earl had suffered a stroke in Nov. 2005 and had been hospitalized since. He was hospitalized at the VA hospital in Salisbury, NC. Recently he had suffered several heart attacks and was diagnosed with incurable leukemia. Earl was a member of the SFA and the SOA #124 GL. Earl served 2 years/7months in Vietnam as a member of SF. He was a SOG recon team leader and 1st/Sgt of FOB 2. He received many decorations for his service including: Silver Star; Purple Heart w/2 OLC; Bronze Star; Air Medal w/OLC; ArCom. w/V; ArCom. w/2OLC; UN Service Medal; Korean Service Medal; Soldiers Medal; GCM w/ 3 knots: CIB; EIB; Master Parachutist Badge and several other awards. Earl left the service on 4 June 1971 with 17 years and 8 months served.

Delbert Taylor Rasmussen, SOA #2261, MAJ (USA, Ret), age 69, died on July 20, 2010 following a courageous battle with Cancer. Major Rasmussen was born in Vernal, Utah on June 18, 1941 to the late Manfred Taylor Rasmussen and Angeline Violet Baldwin. He served in the United States Army from 1958 to 1980 completing assignments with several units including two Parachute Infantry Regiments in the 82nd Airborne Division, 7th Special Forces Group, 5th Special Forces Group, 24th Infantry Division, and 8th Infantry Division. While serving in Special Forces, Major Rasmussen completed two and a half years of combat duty in the Republic of Vietnam working special projects under the Military Assistance Command, Vietnam Studies and Observations Group. He received numerous awards and decorations including the Bronze Star with one Oak Leaf Cluster, but he was most proud of earning the Ranger Tab by completing the U.S. Army Ranger Course in March of 1961. He also received a Bachelor of Science in Business from Pembroke State University during his time in the Army. After retiring from the Army, Major Rasmussen enjoyed a second career as a Contracting Officer at Hill Air Force in Roy, Utah. He remained a resident of Roy until his death. Major Rasmussen is survived by his son and his wife, John and Erinn, Fort Worth, TX; his son and his wife Eric and Shannon, Fort Bragg, NC; his daughter Kristen, Charleston, SC; four grandchildren, Heather and her husband Carlos Luis, Camp Lejeune, NC; Bailey, Ryan and Karsyn, Fort Bragg, NC; two great-grandchildren, Ethaniel and Xavier Luis, Camp Lejeune, NC; and numerous brothers and sisters.

RENE D. CARDENAS, SOA #967, CSM (Ret), a member of Chapter 1-18, passed away on June 16, 2010. A 'wake' will be held at Rogers & Breece Funeral Home, 500 Ramsey St., Fayetteville, NC between 7 - 9 p.m.(Thursday)tomorrow night (June 17). A Mass will be held at 12:30 p.m. Friday (June 18) at St. Ann's Catholic Church, 365 N. Cool Spring St., Fayetteville, NC (910) 483-3216]. This service will be followed with a Committal Service at Sandhills State Veterans Cemetery, Spring Lake, NC at 2:00 p.m. with full military honors. Father Thomas Malloy will conduct the Mass and Chaplain Roy F. Hill will conduct the Committal Service. Cards/Letters may be sent to Rene's family at: Mrs. Irma G. Cardenas, 2422 Cleveland Ave., Fayetteville, NC 28312-9247. Tele: (10) 321-6050. Another fine Green Beret has relocated to the ultimate SFOB.

Shephard "Sonny" Hamner Patton, Sr., SOA #1877, age 70, passed away on Monday, June 14, 2010, at his home surrounded by loved ones. Mr. Patton born in Meridian on April 18, 1940, was the son of the late Florence Dale Hamner Patton and Luther Raleigh Patton. He graduated from Gulfport High School and was a Methodist attending Burton, Lyman and Nugent United Methodist Churches. Mr. Patton retired as a Sergeant Major after serving for over twenty-four years in the Army and was Master Parachutist, Ranger and Special Forces qualified. During his career, Sergeant Major Patton ran numerous Top Secret missions into Laos and Cambodia as a One-Zero team leader in MACSOG during the Vietnam conflict. Although he was never wounded during his time there, his death can be directly attributed to the illnesses that he like so many veterans suffered with after serving his country. He is survived by a large, loving family consisting of his wife of thirty-one years, Cynthia (Cindy) Keefer Patton; sons, Shane Tyler Patton and his wife Crystal of Hattiesburg, Shephard Hamner Patton, Jr. and his wife Melinda of Vaiden, and Andy R. Patton and his wife Sandy of Hill City, KS; daughter, Susan Patton Shannon and her husband Jeff of Mesa, AZ; grandchildren, Joyce Nicole Patton Simmons of Saucier, Shephard Hamner Patton, III and his wife Jamie of Houston, Andy Ray Patton, II of Lizana, and Nickolaus Lee Shannon and Matthew Scott Shannon of Mesa. He also leaves his brothers, Luther R. "Ronnie" Patton, II and his wife Janet and Hunter Lowery Patton and his wife Jan, all of Gulfport; five great-grandchildren and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to the Shephard H. and Cynthia K. Patton ROTC Scholarship Endowment at the University of Southern Mississippi, 118 College Dr, PO Box 10026, Hattiesburg, MS 39406.

Leonard Wallach, SOA #1112, BG (Ret) passed away May 30, 2010. He was a highly decorated Army officer who also served as a director of major running events, including the San Francisco Bay to Breakers race and the marathon races in the 1984 Olympics. Mr. Wallach served in three wars and received three Purple Hearts, three Bronze Star medals for valor and 52 other medals for heroism, outstanding service and for military campaigns. He enlisted in World War II as a private and was promoted to brigadier general when he retired from the Army Reserve more than 40 years later. Mr. Wallach was a soldier and an athlete - and later, a director of athletic events, particularly running. He was a varsity swimmer and gymnast at what was then called San Jose State College and captain of the Army's marathon team. He competed in swimming in the 1948 Olympics and was swimming coach for the Army in the 1964 Olympic Games. He competed in triathlons and ran in over two marathon races. In 1976, when he was voted San Francisco's Running Man of the Year, he ran over 4,500 miles. Mr. Wallach was a third-generation soldier, born on a military post in Honolulu. He graduated from San Jose State and did graduate work at the University of Oregon. He joined the Army in World War II as an enlisted man and attended officer candidate school. He served in the Philippines during that war and then served in the Korean and Vietnam wars, where he had duty in special operations. He was also a member of airborne units and had 122 parachute jumps. His Army career spanned over 43 years on active and reserve duty. "He left a legacy of honesty and integrity," said his widow, Diana Wallach. He is also survived by two daughters, Lea Sassone of Santa Rosa and Bonnie Stowell of

Washington, D.C.; two sons, Tim Wallach of Amsterdam, and Jeff Wallach of San Francisco. There are two stepsons, Scott Chronert of Ross, and Stephen Chronert of Greenwich, Conn.; and seven grandchildren.

Donald M. Palmer, SOA #963, One of our Australian buddies, passed away on 24 May 2010. Donny served some 25 years in the Australian Army, all with Infantry Battalions. WO1 Palmer served in Korea at the age of 18. After Korea he served in Malay and later in Vietnam. Donny served with the 5th SFGA, A-107. Later with Mobile Advisory Training Team 4 RF Coy and again later with Matt 4 Long Dien, AN Ngai and Phuoc Tuy. Donny was highly decorated for his time in Vietnam. Donny retired from the Army as a well respected RSM (Regimental Sgt. Major) of 5th Battalion of the Royal Australian Regiment, Infantry. Don is survived by his wife Daph, three children Douglas, David and Michel and grandchildren. Donny will be missed by all.

HARRY "HEINIE" ADERHOLT, SOA #900, BG (Ret), passed away away on Thursday morning, 20 May 2010 in his home surrounded by family, loyal friends and his devoted caregiver, Jamie Newman. He was born on Jan. 6, 1920, in Birmingham, Ala., to Forest Aderholt and Katie Banholzer and was preceded in death by his loving wife of 56 years, Jessie; brothers, Roy Aderholt and Robert Aderholt; and sister, Cornelia Akin. He is survived by his wife, Anne; daughter, Janet Lynn Elliott and husband Chaplin Col. (Ret.) Richard G. Elliott Jr. of Panama City, Fla.; son, George Aderholt and wife Pat of Navarre, Fla.; one sister, Katherine McDaniel of Trussville, Ala.; two brothers, Warren Aderholt and his wife Bunny of Marietta, Ga., and Louis Aderholt of Huntsville, Ala.; grandchildren, Kevin Richard Elliott and wife Kathy Anderson Elliott, Stacie Lynn Elliott, Kellie Marie Elliott and Mark Randall Elliott; great-granddaughter, Annie Lynn Elliott; and several nieces and nephews. Heinie was one of seven children raised by his widowed mother (his father died, as a result of an accident, when Heinie was just a boy of nine), and he learned very early in life many lessons that would shape his future. Undoubtedly, his mother's influence from her strength, courage, love and strict discipline, provided him with the solid foundation that helped him to grow and develop into the remarkable man he became. Heinie's love of people was obvious and his sincerity and straight forward, up-front approach encouraged the development of many life-long friendships. None more enduring than the bond of love, loyalty and mutual respect that he shared with Maj. Gen. Richard Secord. We wish to thank his faithful friend, Joseph Caruth, who enabled him to continue his early morning ritual of working out at Aderholt Fitness Center. Until his final days he remained close to his brothers and sister and their families. As recently as late January, he made a trip to Birmingham, on to Huntsville, then to Atlanta, assuring all he would be back soon. Gen. Aderholt's 30-plus year military career is legendary. His status as a leader, his many accomplishments, awards and citations will be recorded in the annals of military history. His innumerable friends will remember him as a man of integrity with a loving heart who inspired and touched so many lives.

Thomas W. Kyle, SOA #2141, passed away on May 18, 2010.

DANIEL P. KELLY JR., SOA #2687, SFC (Ret), was found dead in his home on the

evening of May 13, 2010 from an apparent heart attack. Daniel is survived by his 4 kids; Daniel, Clayton, Sandra, Melissa and his ex-wife Edith. Daniel Kelly was born in Oswego, NY on April 21, 1939 and was living in Lawrence, KS when he passed away. I'm not sure of the exact years my father served in Vietnam, but I do know that in 1967 he received 3 Bronze Stars. He was associated with MACVSOG CCS and Project Omega. He was stationed at the following posts: Ft Bragg, NC, Ft Richardson, AK, Ft Gulick, Panama Canal Zone, Ft Devens, MA, Ft Carson, CO and his final duty assignment was as an ROTC Instructor at Kansas University in Lawrence, KS where he retired.

WIL CHARETTE, SOA #1410, Wilfred J.A. Charette born 14 November 1936, passed away 9 May 2010 at his home in Tampa, FL. Wil Charette, a native of Rhode Island served 11 years of military service followed by service with the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) from 1964 until his retirement on 29 November 1996. His first CIA assignment was as a paramilitary Staff Officer at CIA Headquarters and its domestic training facilities. He then served in Laos and Thailand as a Paramilitary Case Officer, Chief of Operations, and Chief of a Laotian irregular paramilitary unit for 8 years. Mr. Charette was then assigned to Ethiopia and Ghana from 1974-1979. In late 1979 Mr. Charette was posted to Swaziland, as Chief of Station (COS) until 1982 when he was assigned to Kampala, Uganda, as COS. Following a two-year tour in Uganda, Mr. Charette attended the US Naval War College in Newport, RI, where he received a Master's Degree in National Security and Strategic Studies. In 1985, he was appointed Chief, CIA Counter Terrorist Center, Foreign Liaison Training and Terrorist Incident Response Team (IRT). From 1992-1994, Mr. Charette served as the Agency's Deputy Chief, Office of Field Deployment. His last U.S. Government assignment was that of DCI Representative at U.S. Special Operations Command, MacDill AFB, Tampa, Florida. Mr. Charette, in post retirement, continued to serve the intelligence community as a senior advisor to SOCCENT at MacDill AFB. Mr. Charette served on the board of directors and co-founded the Special Operation Memorial Foundation, MacDill AFB. Mr. Charette had extensive military experience, having served domestically and overseas with the 508th Airborne Regimental Combat Team (ARCT), the 101st Airborne Division, the 1st Cavalry Division, and Special Forces. Mr. Charette is a Charter Member of the US Army Parachute Team (Golden Knights). He was the first Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge (NCOIC) of the Special Forces Training Group High Altitude Low Opening (HALO) Committee, which included Fulton Recovery Systems (SKYHOOK) Operations. In 1961, he was selected to train the 22nd Special Air Service Regiment's military free fall cadre at Hereford, England. Mr. Charette was a member of the Joint Army/USAF HALO Test Team in the early 1960's that established much of the HALO training and operations doctrine still in use today. He also participated in the record breaking 43,500 foot jump to establish a world record "FAI Class G-II-C, group of nine with delayed fall". He received the Distinguished Flying Cross for his participation in the HALO Test Program and his subsequent use of HALO insertion techniques. He is the author of the United States Parachute Association (USPA) Publication, "Jumping in the Troposphere", and is the recipient of the USPA Golden Wings representing 1,000 free fall parachute jumps. Mr. Charette's last military assignment was with the 5th Special Forces Group. During his stellar and distinguished career, Mr. Charette received the

following awards and commendations: (CIA) Donovan Award for Excellence Career Intelligence Medal for Exceptional Achievement Two Director Of Central Intelligence awards for exceptional service under conditions of hazard and hardship Promoted into the Senior Intelligence Service (SIS-1989) (DOD) Distinguished Flying Cross Secretary of Defense Medal for Meritorious Civilian Service Wil Charette will be remembered for his commitment to service, to his country and to his family. He will always be remembered as a patriot and the epitome of what it means to be a true American hero. In the words of his brothers and sisters in the clandestine service "he was a legendary warrior...A legend in own time. The things he survived, his mentoring, his leadership, and his unwavering patriotism is and will forever be a flame that goes on burning, we will never forget him. He was our commander... our General."

Antonio Ramirez, SOA #561, passed away at the age of 80, on 4 May 2010, in Fairfield, CA. He is survived by his brother Leonard Ramirez.

CHARLES A. "CHUCK" RILEY, SOA #1107GL, LTC USAF (Ret.), age 83 of 23 Hamburg Mtn. Road died Friday, April 30, 2010. Charles was born August 8, 1926 in Sullivan County, Tenn. and was a career military officer before retiring to Weaverville in the 1970's. He officer was the son of the late Charles Andrew Riley and Marian Lee Null Riley. Col. Charles A. Riley, USAF Retired, served with the Navy Amphibious Forces in the pacific Theater during World War II, (Iwo Jima), the Army's 82nd Airborne Division after the war. He then transferred to the US Air Force in 1949 to attend Pilot School. He flew aerial combat in Korea with the Air Rescue Service, then two tours in Vietnam in Air Commando Squadrons. He was a Master Parachutist and a Command pilot. After retiring from the military he worked with photography and was an alcohol and drug abuse counselor. Surviving are his wife of 61 years, Vera "Kit" Young Riley; daughters, Sallye Riley Fox and husband Martin of Fairview and Kathryn Crawford and husband Chip of Sarasota, Fla.; son, William D. "Bill" Riley and wife Pat of Bradenton, Fla.; sister, Ruth Ann Latham of Knoxville, Tenn.; grandchildren, Sloan Brigman, Kelly Waldrop, and Bridget Riley and great granddaughter, Haley Brigman.

ROY LEE JOHNSON, SOA #1458, Died 7 April 2010 at his home in Tampa FL after a courageous battle with cancer, Roy was in the care of LifePath Hospice and surrounded by members of his loving family. Mr Johnson was born on January 17, 1932 in Penn Laird, VA to Melvin and Ruby Good Johnson. Roy was married to Takeko "Kay" Kasai who preceded Roy's death in August 2008. He is survived by his two children, John E. Johnson and Jo Ann Babcock, of Tampa, FL. four sisters and a brother, as well as seven grandchildren and five great grandchildren. Roy was preceded in death by two brothers and two sisters. Roy joined the U.S. Army in 1950, and 25 years of distinguished service retired in 1975. During his military career, Roy served 22 years in elite airborne units, including 14 years in the U.S. Army Special Forces. He was a decorated veteran of the Korean and Vietnam wars, and served in the Dominican Republic as a military advisor during the Cuban crisis. He was awarded several medals as a result of his combat tours, including the Purple Heart, Bronze Star with V, Air Medal, Korean Service Medal, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Ribbon, Vietnam Service Medal, and the United Nations Service Medal. After Roy's military retirement he moved

to Broadway, VA where he and his wife owned and operated the Broadway Restaurant and Cleaners for over 16 years. Memorial services will be held in Broadway, VA. on 17 April 2010.

GERALD "JERRY" WAREING, SOA # 907-GL, Captain, US Army, (Ret), passed away on February 16, 2010 at his home in Thailand. Jerry was born on July 19th, 1934 in Yonkers, New York. Jerry entered the Army in 1952 and his first major assignment was with the 77th Special Forces Group. He participated on "White Star/Hot Foot" while assigned to 7th Special Forces Group. Jerry brought a "Snake Bite" Team from 1st Special Forces to MACV-SOG. In 1966 Jerry was the "10" of RT Iowa, FOB-2, MACV-SOG. He also served in the 10th, 3rd, 5th, 8th Special Forces Groups and 46th Special Forces Company. He also served with 11th Airborne Division in Germany. Jerry received a direct commission from General Westmoreland along with Dick Meadows and Bill Walsh while assigned to MACV-SOG. His many awards and decorations include the Soldiers Medal, Bronze Star w/V Device, PUC, MUC, CIB, Medical Badge and Commendation Badge. Upon his retirement in California, he assisted in training members of the 12th Special Forces Group in SCUBA. He is survived by his wife, Tasanee of Thailand.

ROBERT L. (BOB) KORCHEK, SOA #246-DD & SFA #D-560L, LTC (Ret.), a member of Chapter XXXIII, Special Forces Association, suffered a debilitating stroke in late January and passed away in Hospice in Spartanburg, SC on Tuesday, February 2, 2010. He was 81 years old. A veteran of the Korean and Vietnam Wars, Bob started his military career by following in his father's and grandfather's footsteps and enlisting in the US Marine Corps at the end of WWII. Demobilized in 1946, he applied for entrance to the United States Military Academy at West Point, entering the academy in 1947 as a member of the Class of 1951 where he later achieved the distinction of being the class "Goat." He initially served in the 511th AIR of the 11th Abn Div, but, along with most of the Class of '51, he was immediately shipped to the war in Korea, serving with the 7th Inf Regt, 3rd Inf Div for 15 months as a Platoon Leader and Company Commander. Returning to the States, Bob attended the regular Army schools and then served in the 505th AIR, 82nd Abn Div for three years as a Bn S-1 and Company Commander. In 1958 Bob joined Special Forces, serving in the 77th (later the 7th) SFG(A) as an A Team Leader. While assigned to the 77th, he served his first of two tours with the WHITE STAR MTT in Laos. He next served in the 1st SFG(A) for four years as an A Team Leader and on the Group S-3 staff, where he once again deployed to the WHITE STAR MTT in Laos. Later SF assignments included one year on the USMACV(SOG) staff; service as an Instructor in the Officer's Special Forces Qualification Course; and a year as the S-3 of the 46th SF Co (A) in Thailand. Returning from Thailand, Bob immediately deployed overseas again: this time to Panama where he served three years as the Commander of A Company and as the Group Deputy Commander. While commanding Company A, he earned the nickname "The Rock" because he was fondly known as a hard, demanding, firm but fair commander. He carried this nickname with him until he retired from the Army. His last assignment was to the Special Warfare Center where he served as the Course Director for the Enlisted Special Forces Qualification Course. LTC Korchek was the recipient of numerous awards and

decorations for both valor and service. He is survived by his beloved wife, Annemarie; a daughter, Lori; and four step children: SSG Thomas P. Cronin, Tina, John and Rheinhardt.

PAUL FREDRICK POOLE, SOA #2550, MSG (Ret.) age 67, of Cabot went to be with his heavenly father Tuesday, February 2, 2010. He was born May 25, 1942 in Horatio, Arkansas to Helen Bailey Poole of Cabot and the late Paul Emerson Poole. Mr. Poole enjoyed training and riding horses. In addition to his father, he was preceded in death by two sons, Paul and Edward Poole. Mr. Poole is survived by his wife, Nona Poole of the home, his mother Helen Bailey Poole of Cabot, a sister Rosalie Petersen (Dr. Rex) of Neosho, Missouri, one brother David Poole (Carolyn) of Sheridan and several nieces and nephews.

Reino O. Oksa, SOA #2144, passed away on Jan 31, 2010.

MICHAEL P. DUGGAN, SOA #34, CPT, passed away at the age of 65 on Tuesday, December 29, 2009, after a courageous battle with cancer. Mike leaves behind his loving wife, Lucy (Macell) Duggan, two daughters, Karen M. Lambert and Tina A. Mascia, 8 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren. Born in Fitchberg, MA, Mike lived most of his life in Worcester, MA. He served 3 years in the U.S. Army, Special Forces and SOG. Mike was honorably discharged as a Captain in 1971. He was awarded the Silver Star, 3 Bronze Stars, and the Air Medal. Mike was very close, caring, and attentive to his wife, children and grandchildren. He also leaves behind a multitude of loyal friends whose lives were forever changed for the better for having met him.

ROBERT LEWIS HOWARD, SOA #969, COL (Ret), Medal of Honor, died Wednesday, 23 Dec. 2009 at a hospice in Waco, Texas. He was 70 years old. Robert L. Howard was born on July 11, 1939 in Opelika, Alabama. He joined the Army in 1956 at age 17 and was assigned to the 101st Airborne Division. Bob joined Special Forces on completion of his 101st Airborne tour. He served five tours in Vietnam and was the only soldier to be nominated for the Medal of Honor three times for three separate actions. Bob received the Medal of Honor, Distinguished Service Cross, the Silver Star, Four Bronze Stars, eight Purple Hearts along with numerous other awards. Due to exceptional service, SFC Bob Howard received an Officers Commission. In 1971 Bob Howard was presented the Medal of Honor by President Richard Nixon. Robert L. Howard was one of the Vietnam War's most highly decorated servicemen. Bob retired from the Army in 1992. He is survived by his daughters Denicia Howard of Florida; Melissa Gentsch of Hewitt, Texas and Rosslyn Howard of California; a son Robert Lewis Howard, Jr of California and four grandchildren.

LEWIS WELLS, SOA #1015, MSG (Ret), passed away 8 December 2009. Lewis is survived by his wife Audry, four children, four grandchildren, and one great grandson. Lewis will be missed by all his friends and family.

WILLIAM T. PARLON, SOA #1922, MSG (Ret), passed away 05 Dec 2009. His wife, Barbara, preceded him in death 2 or 3 days before. Bill served in CCN, 1st SFG, 187th

Airborne, and other units. He retired as a master sergeant. Bill retired from the U.S. Army after 25 years of service to his country. William is survived by his two children, Billy Parlon and Ann Harris; four grand children and two great- grandchildren. He is also survived by a brother, Paul E. Parlon and a sister, Grace H. Keefe.

LEWIS L. MILLET, SOA #505-GL, COL (Ret), Medal of Honor recipient of Idyllwild, CA died Saturday morning Nov 24, 2009 at Jerry L. Pettis Memorial VA Medical Center in Loma Linda. He was 88. "He had a brief hospitalization. He came in the day before Veterans Day," said hospital spokeswoman Annie Tuttle. Col. Millett had various health problems over the last three to five years, including diabetes, said Mike Goldware, a family spokesman. A cause of death was not announced. Funeral arrangements were pending. Col. Millett was a regular at patriotic events locally and across the country. In April, Col. Millett served as grand marshal for the Salute to Veterans Parade in Riverside. Earlier this year, a park in San Jacinto was dedicated in his name. "He was a regular at the (Riverside) National Cemetery," Goldware said. "If he could get on board a military transport, he would go anywhere for the troops." Col. Millett was born in Mechanic Falls, Maine, on Dec. 15, 1920. He enlisted in the Army Air Corps in 1940 and served as an air gunner, then joined the Canadian Army when it appeared the United States would not enter World War II. "He joined the Royal Canadian Army after President Roosevelt said in a speech that no American boy would fight on foreign soil," Goldware said. He returned to the U.S. Army in 1942 upon the United States' entrance into World War II and served in the 1st Armored Division. After making sergeant, he was awarded a battlefield commission. According to his Medal of Honor Citation, then-Capt. Millett distinguished himself "above and beyond the call of duty in action" in Korea, after he and his men came under heavy enemy fire on Feb. 7, 1951. He ordered and led a bayonet counterattack up the hill, killing enemy soldiers in hand-to-hand assault during which he was wounded by a grenade blast. But by early afternoon, his company had taken the hill. He was presented the Medal of Honor by President Harry S. Truman in July 1951. He retired as a colonel in 1973 after a 31-year career in which he served in World War II, Korea War and the Vietnam War.

BILL "TWEETY" SYLVESTER, SOA #973-GL, MAJ (Ret) age 68, passed away on 9 November 2009, in San Diego, CA. He was a lifetime member of the SFA and the current president of Chapter LXXV (75). Bill was also very active with the SOA, most recently serving as the SOA Tally Committee Chairman. Bill enlisted in the Army in the early 1960s, and was a graduate of Infantry OCS, Airborne School, Ranger School, Special Forces Officers Course. He served with the 1st SFG(A); 5th SFG(A) MACVSOG FOB 1(Hatchet Forces), CDR Det 341 (Bu-Dop), S3 B-34, S3 Co. A, III Corps; Training/Ops Advisor to USAR units of the 11th SFG(A) and 12th SFG(A). Bill was awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge, Parachutist Badge, Ranger Tab, Special Forces Tab, Bronze Star Medal w/V device (1st OLC), Purple Heart Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal (w/numeral 1), Good Conduct Medal, Army Commendation Medal (2nd OLC), National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal w/60 device, Presidential Unit Citation, Meritorious Unit Citation (1st OLC), Vietnam Cross of Gallantry w/palm, Republic of Vietnam Civil Actions Unit Citation, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas

Service Ribbon, Thailand Parachutist Badge w/Fourragere, Republic of Vietnam Parachutist Badge. Bill is survived by his long time companion Julie Wise and his sister Gail. Bill was full of life, loved those dearest to him, and was loyal to his friends and a country that he served so well. He will be missed – Lest We Forget.

ROSA "ROSIE" CHILDS, SOA #1252-ww, Rosie Childs was suddenly taken from the lives of her family and friends on Sunday, November 8, 2009. She was born on a farm in southern Bavaria but spent most of her life as Mrs. Arthur Childs. In the U.S., she and her sons, followed Arthur whenever his assignment allowed. She lived in Germany, the United States, and Viet Nam, (she was there during the 1968 Tet Offensive), and the middle east. She traveled extensively to Canada, Australia, Hong Kong and middle and western Europe. Rosie was proud of her German heritage, but becoming an American citizen was one of the proudest moments of her life. She was a proud Special Forces wife, and loved her Special Operations family. Rosie was always the life of any party. Her smile lit up the room as she made her sweeping entrance, often sipping her favorite drink, champagne (which eventually was dubbed "Rosie juice"). Her hugs and laughter were always a welcome spark to any gathering. Though she was not ready to leave this world, Rosie would love to know that she is the first SOA warrior widow to join her warrior husband Art in the hereafter. We can picture Rosie making Arthur wait until she selects the right angel outfit so he can walk her through the pearly gates in style. Rosie is survived by her three sons, Chris, Mike and Patrick, two grandsons, Brian and Eric, and numerous nieces and nephews in Germany. Rosie was well-loved by her family and friends and will be sorely missed. God speed dear friend and may you rest in peace.

ROBERT "BOB" SCHREIBER, SOA #2221, LTC (R), passed away 20 Oct. 2009. Bob requested to be cremated and his ashes scattered on the grounds of the SFA. Cards/Letters may be sent to his wife, Chris Schreiber at 457 Crestview Drive, Boiling Springs Lake, NC 28461

PATRICK EUGENE MARTIN, SOA #2109-GA, passed away the evening of October 3, 2009. Organizations: US ARMY, SPECIAL FORCES, B-36, CSEA REP, FOLSOM PRISON TEACHERS ASSOC. Survived By: Jolie Lynn Miller, Daughter, Jeffrey Miller, Son in law, Taylor Miller, Grandson, Cody Miller, Grandson, Mary Earle, Sister, James Marsh, Nephew, Lisa Davies, Neice, Jessica Rosales, Niece, Sharon Hilde, Sister in Law, and Ron Earle, Brother in Law. Patrick Martin was born in 1939 in Omaha, Nebraska to June and Eugene Martin. Patrick was always cited as being a mischievous child, but one with a big heart. Patrick's father passed away while Pat and Mary were young. Pat took care of his mother and sister. June, Pat's mother, eventually married Robert Swain whom Pat and Mary considered their dad. Pat ended up getting into some trouble and was offered the opportunity to join the armed forces. He joined the Army. While Pat was in the Army, his mother and Helen Simon, Carole's mother, got together and decided Pat and Carole should become pen pals. Shortly after their relationship developed, they ended up getting married in 1961. They spent the next twelve years traveling and living/loving the Army life. Eventually they gave birth to Jolie Lynn, their one and only child. The three of them continued to move with the Army. Germany

seemed to be their favorite place to be stationed. After 20 years of service Pat finally retired. He decided to finish school and become a teacher. He substituted for awhile, and then was hired by Folsom State Prison as a teacher. He taught for the next 15 years at Folsom. During this time he also took care of his wife Carole "Cookie" whom was battling cancer; as the two of them continued to raise Jolie. Pat retired from Folsom Prison and went to work for the State of California "CSEA" as a Union Representative. Pat loved the job and continued to work there until Cookie passed away in 2003. Pat retired and turned his focus and time onto his family. He enjoyed being with his daughter and grandsons all of the time. After the death of his father Robert Swain in 2006, Pat moved to Port Angeles, Wa to be with his mother June. In 2007 Pat suffered a massive stroke rendering him disabled. He came back home to California to live near his daughter Jolie. In 2008 Patrick's mother passed away. Patrick always spoke of loving to be with his family, but that he was ready to go home to be with Jesus and his beautiful wife Cookie. We all know he is with them, and he has a big smile on his face and he is looking down over all of us.

GERALD ALLAN PLANK, SOA #75 GL, SFC, US Army, died 16 August 2009 in Petersburg Alaska, from a heart attack. He is survived by wife, Candyce Jones; son, Jason Roy Plank; grandson, Caeden Gerald Plank; daughter, Joselynn Jean Plank and mother Ramona Jean Plank. His father, Leroy Plank was deceased on October 8, 2005. Jerry served with CCN, MACV-SOG in Vietnam. He also served on Det A-323 (SCUBA), 1st Special Forces Group. His awards and decorations include: three Silver Stars, three Bronze Stars with "V" for valor, Purple Heart and Combat Infantryman's Badge. After leaving the service he was employed as a commercial diver in Seattle, Washington and Alaska. He has lived in Petersburg, Alaska, since 1997.

HUGH RAINES HUBBARD, SOA #600, MSG, US Army retired, passed away August 13, 2009 at the Vanderbilt Medical Center in Nashville, Tennessee at age 75. Hugh's Special Operations assignments include Combined Studies and MACVSOG OP 35. He was an outstanding medic, a fine Special Forces Soldier and a pioneer of the A-Teams of the 60's and 70's. He was the senior medic on A-246 in April 1962 at Mang Buk, Vietnam, and A-331 at Bong Son in April 1965. He made five TDY and PCS tours to Vietnam from 1962 until 1972 while assigned to the 1st SFG(A) , the 5th SFG(A), and SMAG. He retired from the Army while assigned to the 10th SFG(A). After retiring from the US Army, Hugh went to work for the Vinnell Corporation in Saudi Arabia and then retired from the Washington State Department of Corrections as a Civil Service employee in Monroe, Washington. His awards include the Bronze Star Medal, Army Commendation Medal with V one Oak Leaf Cluster, Air Medal, Meritorious Unit Citation, Presidential Unit Citation, Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Korea Service Medal, United Nations Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Vietnam Cross of Gallantry W/Palm, Philippine Republic Unit Citation, Combat Medical Badge, and Master Parachutist Badge. Memorial services with full military honors by the 5th SFG(A) were held at McKenzie, Tennessee. Hugh is survived by his beloved wife Cheryl of McKenzie, TN.

Richard A. "Dick" Delaney, SOA #2129, age 79, passed away July 17, 2009 at his home due to ALS "Lou Gehrig's Disease". He was born in Exeter, Neb., on Jan. 8, 1930 to Alven L. and Eva G. Delaney. He is preceded in death by his parents and only sibling, Betty J. Wyant. Dick spent over 30 years in the Army, beginning with basic training at Ft. Riley, Kansas and then on to Jump School at Ft. Benning, GA. Upon completion of Jump School, he joined the 82nd Airborne at Fort Bragg, N.C. He then went to Special Forces, serving at Fort Bragg, N.C., Fort Gulick, Canal Zone, Fort Deven, MA., as well as two tours in Vietnam. He also served 3 yrs. with USMAG, Bogota, Columbia, S.A. While in service he received the Bronze Star, Army Commendation Medal, Good Conduct Medal, 1st thru 9th Awards, Meritorious Unit Citation, National Defense Service Medal w/1 OLC, Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal w/60 Device, Vietnam Cross of Gallantry w/Palm, Combat Infantry Badge, Master Parachute Badge, Vietnam Parachute Badge and the Legion of Merit. He was also an ROTC instructor for St. Bonaventure University, N.Y., and Haines City Jr. High, FL. Mr. Delaney is survived by his wife of 56 years, Doris and two sons: Michael of Dundee, FL., James (Kim) Newport News, VA.; two daughters, Katherine (Bernard) Cann, Leominster, MA., Carol (Orland) Olsen, Winter Haven, FL.; 7 grand and 7 great grandchildren.

ALBERT H. DAVIS, SOA #1018, MSG, US Army, retired, passed away on 27 April 2009 while in the hospital. Al was a veteran of the Korean and Vietnam Wars and joined Special Forces in 1952. His SF assignments included service with the 3rd, 5th, 10th, and 77th SFG(A). He also served with SF Training Group and three tours with MACV-SOG. He was awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge in Korea and Combat Medical Badge in Vietnam along with numerous other awards and decorations. He is survived by his wife Ruth and two children.

KIMBER O. BUDROW, SOA #1694-GA, SGM, US Army (Ret), passed away Sunday, 5 April 2009 at UPMC Presbyterian in Pittsburgh. Kim served with C&C Det, FOB4, and CCN. He was born on May 13, 1937, in Fowler, Ind., son of Delton and Margaret Colescott Budrow. He served in both the Korean and Vietnam Wars. At his retirement, he had attained the rank of Sgt. Major with the Army in Special Forces as a Green Beret. Among his many awards were the National Defense Service Medal, Parachutist Badge, Bronze Star Medal, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, Meritorious Unit Commendation, Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry and the Combat Infantryman Badge. He also had been employed as an archeologist for Louis & Berger in East Orange, N.J. He is survived by his wife, Linda Lippard of Kane; four children, Robin (Vance) Riggs of Huntsville, Ala., Michael (Carla) Budrow of DeForest, Wisc., Sheryl (John) Maher of Buffalo, N.Y. and Cynthia (Robert) Kwiatkowski of Stanley, N.C.; three step-children, Louisa Lippard of Queensbury, N.Y., Thomas Lippard of Smethport and Jennifer Lippard of Sharon; 15 grandchildren; and a sister, Oma Godina of Scottsdale, Ariz. He was preceded in death by his parents. A memorial service will be held at a future date to be announced. Memorial donations may be made to the Special Forces

Association. The Cummings Funeral Home Inc. is in charge of arrangements. Online condolences can be expressed at www.cummingsfh.com.

BURREL "RAT" WILSON, SOA #1559-GL, MSG, US Army, retired, passed away 17 March 2009 while in WOMACK Army Medical Center. A Vietnam veteran, Rat's SF assignments included participating in MTT White Star in Laos in 1962 while with the 7th SFG(A), with 1st SFG (Okinawa) 1964, with SOG and 5th SFG(A) in Vietnam in '65, '66, '68-'68 and with USAIMA. His awards and decorations included Combat Infantryman Badge, Meritorious Unit Citation, Vietnam Cross of Gallantry, Master Parachutist Badge and numerous other awards and decorations. He is survived by his companion Shirley Farrow, two sons, a daughter, three grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

CHARLES D. "CHICK" BUSLER, SOA #1975, SSG (Ret), of New Cumberland, PA died Tuesday January 18, 2009 at the age of 63 in Health South, Upper Allen Twp. He was a retired Staff Sergeant in the U.S. Army serving with the Special Forces / Green Berets in Vietnam. He also a retired technician for UGICorp., Harrisburg. He was a member of the 82nd Airborne Division Assn.; Special Operations Assn.; American Legion, Dry Run, PA; VFW Post 7415, New Cumberland; and Disabled American Veterans, Chapter 50, Camp Hill. Chick was born in Lemoyne to the late William and Clara (Sprecker) Busler. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother William "Little Bill" Busler. He is survived by his wife, Karen (Yinger) Busler; his two sons, Rod Snell and Heath Snell, both of New Cumberland; two sisters, Shirley Heiges of Harrisburg and Roberta "Bobbie" Eason of Lemoyne; two brothers, Elmer "Herk" Busler of Mechanicsburg and Richard "Dick" Busler of Lemoyne; five grandchildren, Tyler, Dylan, Cody, Emily and Connor; and several nieces and nephews. Funeral services will be held on Saturday January 23, 2010 at 2 pm in Parthemore Funeral Home & Cremation Services, New Cumberland with the Rev. Dale Parker officiating. Viewing will be from 12:30 pm until time of service Saturday in the funeral home. Private burial will be at the convenience of the family.

JASON TAMASESE "WOODY" WOODWORTH, SOA #125-GL, MSG, US Army, retired, passed away 15 January 2009 in Hawaii. Woody's Special Operations assignments included: FOB2 (C&C), OP 34A & 35A, and Liaison Bureau. He was a veteran of the Korean War serving with Co G, 187th Airborne Regimental Combat Team. Prior to the Korean War he served with the 511th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 11th Airborne Division in Japan. Other assignments included 2nd Airborne Battle Group, 503rd Infantry, Okinawa, 1st, 3rd and 5th Special Forces Groups, MACV Recondo School and the Pathfinder Platoon, 25th Infantry Division. He also was attached to 1st Special Forces Group SCUBA Detachment twice: once as a medic and once as an interpreter. After retiring from the US Army, Woody went to work with Vinnell

Corporation in Saudi Arabia and then went to work for Civil Service at the US Army Range Control Center at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii; Pohakuloa Training Center, Hawaii; Range Control, 2nd Infantry Division, South Korea. His many awards included the Silver Star for Heroism during the Korean War, Combat Infantryman Badge (2nd Award), Pathfinder Badge, Master Parachutists Badge. Woody founded Chapter 43 of the Special Forces Association. Woody is survived by his beloved wife Jean, Hilo, Hawaii.

STEPHEN V. HAILEY, SOA #1792-GA, Born Jan 29, 1945, died Dec 28, 2008. Pilot for 195th for CCS. President, Hailey Co., Inc., family-owned and operated cattle ranch and farm. Mesa, WA HOR. Representative, Asst Republican Whip, Washington House of Representatives. Cancer. Wife Pat. Jay Hammond #1764-GL will deliver plaque. Steve was one of the pilots on the ill fated raid on COSVN wherein Jerry Shriver and others were lost. Awards include Distinguished Flying Cross, Bronze Star, Air Medal with 28 device and V device, graduate of Washington State Univ. and Eastern Washington Univ.

WILLIAM G. IGNATZ, SOA # 2008-GA, MSG, US Army, retired, passed away 12 October 2008 following a five year battle with cancer. Bill served with 8240th AU during the Korean War. Prior to his assignment with 8240th AU, he had served with the 187th Airborne Regimental Combat Team Pathfinders, participating in the combat jump at Sukchon, Korea on 20 October 1950. After his tour was up with the 8240th AU, he returned to the 187th ARCT and was reassigned to the Pathfinder Platoon. Bill served with the 1st Special Forces Group on Okinawa and Vietnam. His awards and decorations include: Purple Heart, Combat Infantryman's Badge (2nd Award), Korean Honor Medal for his service with the 8240th AU, the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry, Army Commendation Medal for Valor, Master Parachutist Badge with 1 battle star, and the Pathfinder Badge (cloth). After his retirement he became an Instructor Pilot in fixed wing aircraft and later was hired by the Alabama State Forestry Commission as the first full time district pilot with the primary mission of fire detection. He was Commander of Chapter 2211, Military Order of the Purple Heart. He is survived by his wife Jean; daughters Karen, Cynthia and Tina; Sons, William and Dennis; five grandchildren and two great grand children. And of course his two beloved canines, Maggie and Mugsley.

BILLY J. CHANCE, SOA #1315-GX, passed away 16 September 2008 at Wichita, KS. He was born September 20, 1933 in Kensington, the son of William and Emma Wachs Chance. a resident of Mt. Hope, he was a real estate broker and the former owner of Mt. Hope Clarion. He was a graduate of West Point and retired as Lt. Col. While at West Point, he played football under Red Blaik. During a game in 1964 against Duke, he played the entire 60 minutes: center on offense and linebacker on defense. He served

two tours in White Star, as a 1st Lt. and then as a Capt. He also served as the Plans Officer for SOG 1966-67(OP35). On July 24, 1955 he married Joan Hunsberger in Mt. Hope. He is survived by his wife and his sons William and wife Candy in Dallas, and Mark and wife Kathy in Belle Plains; daughter, Jennifer Roden and husband Doug in Houston, sisters: Merna Lee Snay in Haven and Ferne Brooks in Wichita as well as five grandsons: Nicholas, Lee and Will Chance and Zach and Nate Roden. He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother. The funeral was held at the United Methodist Church, Mt. Hope with the Rev. Donna Wise presiding. memorials may sent to the Mt. Hope Ambulance Fund in care of Wulf-Ast Mortuary, Mt. Hope.

LILBURN L. MYERS, SOA # 673-GA, LTC, US Army, retired, was killed in a tragic tractor accident on 23 July 2008 in New Kent, Virginia. Lee served with MACV-SOG. He also served in the 77th, 10th, 7th and 5th Special Forces Group, and SOTFE. He was a member and 1st Elected President of Chapter 33, SFA. Survivors include his wife Linda.

MITSUO “MITCH” MATSUOKA SOA # 2533-GA, died in a tragic accident 25 June 2008 while fishing at the Carson River near Lake Tahoe, California. Mitch had served with the 195th AHC flying for CCS, MACV-SOG 1968 – 1971. He was employed at ASML for the past 22 years. He is survived by his wife Patricia; daughter, Stefanie; and son, Eric.

LAWRENCE PATRICK SELLERS, SOA # 1804-GL, MSG, US Army, retired, passed away 20 June 2008 at a residential care facility in Santa Rosa, California. Larry served with Recondo, 5th Special Forces Group, Vietnam. He also served with the 10th, 77th and 1st Special Forces Group. Larry's many awards and decorations included the Purple Heart and Combat Infantry's Badge. Larry was a linguist speaking three languages. He was a member of Chapter 14, Monterey, California and the VFW in Marina, California. He is survived by his son, Lawrence Sellers, Jr. of Windsor, California; daughters Maggie Baird of Fresno, California and Jeanette Batton of Aiken, South Carolina; grandchildren, Mark Baird and Tracy Hansen; and five great grandchildren.

EVERETT L. “SAM” HOUSTON, SOA #164-G, passed away 19 June 2008 at his home in Redding, California from the effects of several types of cancer. Sam served with CCN, MACV-SOG 1969, B-55 Mike Force, and Air America in Laos. His awards and decorations include: Purple Heart, Air medal, Army Commendation Medal, and Combat Infantryman's Badge. He is survived by his wife Susan and two sons, John and Matt.

RONALD C. FLETCHER, SOA # 1997-GA, SGT, US Army, passed away 9 June 2008

peacefully in a hammock in the Colorado Mountains. Ron served with TF1AE, MACV-SOG. Among his awards and decorations are the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, and Army Commendation Medal with/V device. Ron served the Paducah Police Department and had attended Murray State University. Ron was the loving husband of Rebecca JaNelle Floyd Fletcher for 35 years, father of Heather Dyan Fletcher Jones; son-in-law Eric David Jones of Paducah, Jessica Noel Fletcher of Carbondale, Illinois and Matthew Ian Fletcher; daughter-in-law Jessica Lynn Cates Fletcher of Paducah, six grandchildren; sister Shirley Fletcher Schultz of Nashville, Tennessee; and brother Randall Brian Fletcher.

BUCKY N. SMITH, SOA # 469-GL, SGM, US Army, retired, passed away 3 June 2008. Bucky served with Star 1960-1961 and the Mike Force 1968. His other Special Forces assignments included 1st, 3rd, 5th and 10 Special Forces Groups. Bucky was also a veteran of the Korean War. Among his awards and decorations are Bronze Star with four Oak Leaf Clusters and the "V" Device, Purple Heart, Combat Infantryman's Badge (2nd Award) and the Master Parachutist Badge. He is survived by his wife Akiko, two sons, a daughter, four sisters, a brother, six grandchildren, and thirteen grandchildren.

LARRY C. KENNEMER, SOA # 181-GL, CPT, US Army, retired passed away 27 May 2008 at the Audie Murphy VA Hospital in San Antonio, Texas. Larry served with CCN, MACV-SOG. He also served with 5th Special Forces Group, Vietnam, and 46th Special Forces Company. Among his many awards and decoration are the Bronze Star with three Oak Leaf Clusters and the Presidential Unit Citation. He was a member of the Special Forces Association, First Christian Church and VFW Post # 8541. He was preceded in death by his wife of 28 years, Beverly Ann Kennemer in 2000. Survivors include his daughter, Leslie Adele Kennemer; son, Neal Clinton Kennemer; mother, Mary Ellen (Webber) Kennemer; sister, Karen V. Kennemer, and a host of other relatives and friends.

MARIO G. DURAN SOA # 279-GA, SFC, US Army retired, passed away 9 May 2008 in San Antonio, Texas. Mario served with CCS, MACV-SOG. Mario was also a member of the Special Forces Association. He is survived by his wife, daughter, sons, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

JOHN W. KORSBECK, SOA # 326-GL, CW2, US Army retired, passed away 1 May 2008 at a Malta Hospital in Montana of complications from exposure to chemicals during the Vietnam War. John served two tours in Vietnam. First, as a helicopter pilot with the 281st AHC flying for "Project Delta", and later as a fixed wing pilot flying for 60th AHC. Prior to attending the Army Aviation School John served with the 3rd Special Forces Group. His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star and 45 Air Medals.

John was also a member of the Special Forces association. John is survived by his wife Judy of Malta; a son, Kelly Korsbeck of Elvira, Ohio; a daughter, Kristie (Kelly) Rutledge of Big Sandy; his mother, Ellen Korsbeck of Malta; sisters, Sue (Dwight) Bomer of McAllister, Oklahoma, and Darlene (Jim) Brogan of Wilsall; and grandchildren, Brantly, Andrea and Lance Rutledge of Big Sandy.

RUDOLPH WILLIAM COOPER, SOA # 506-GA, SGM , US Army retired, passed away 25 April 2008 at the VA Hospice Center in Washington , DC . Rudy was assigned to CCS, MACV-SOG. His other Special Forces Assignments included the 5th (RVN & CONUS, 7th and 10th (CONUS) Special Forces Groups and two tours with 46th Special Forces Company. Rudy was one of the few Special Forces Soldiers to have received the Combat Infantry Badge 3rd Award for Combat Service in WW II, Korea and Vietnam . Also among his many wards and decorations are the Silver Star, 10 Bronze Stars and 3 Purple Hearts. He is survived by two daughters, three grandsons, a brother and four great-grandchildren

RONALD L. HOFFMAN, SOA # 1745-G, SFC, US Army retired, passed away 30 March 2008 at his home in Augusta , Georgia . His death was attributed to wounds he received in Vietnam in 1968. Ron served in both the Korean and Vietnam Wars. During the Vietnam War Ron served at FOB 2 as a 11 on a Spike Team. His many awards include the Purple Heart, Combat Infantryman Badge, Presidential Unit Citation and Army commendation Medal. He was an active member in the American Legion, DAV and National Order of Trench Rats. He is survived by his wife Doris Davis; five children; James Lakeman and wife Allyson of Greensboro, North Carolina, Cathy Sors and her husband Tim of Goose Creek, South Carolina, Dan Hoffman and his wife Janice of Fayetteville, North Carolina, Wendy San Angelo and husband Michael of Tucson, Arizona, and Jennifer Lakeman of Augusta, Georgia; brother Gerald Brainard of Detroit, Michigan; sister Norma Jean Van Schoick of Venice, Florida; and eleven grand children.

JOSEPH C. SKOKOWSKI II, SOA # 1342-AA, MSG, US Army retired, passed away 15 March 2008 at the Aurora South Medical Center in Aurora, Colorado. Joe served as a parachute rigger with MACV-SOG at CCN and 1st Flight. Joe also served in 5th Special Forces Group. He later entered the National Guard and saw service in the Middle East. Among his awards and decorations are the Combat Infantryman's Badge and Joint Services Commendation Medal. Survivors include his wife Elizabeth Cofield of England; two sons, Cameron and Scott Skokowski of Erie, Colorado; two brothers, Stephen T. Skokowski of Cheyenne, Wyoming, and James T. Savidge of Annapolis; and three sisters, Claire M. Snow of Nettleton, Mississippi, Stephanie M. Tassche of Derwood in Montgomery county, and Lisa Early of Potomac.

MANUAL C. BUSTAMANTE, SOA # 2382-GA, 1SG, US Army retired, passed away 10 March 2008 at home in El Paso, Texas. "Manny" was 68. He joined Special Forces in 1960 and served in Vietnam with 5th Special Forces Group: II Corps Mike Force, Project Delta and MACV-SOG as a member of OP-35 and OP-36. Manny also served with 1st Special Forces Group: Okinawa and Vietnam and 8th Special Forces Group in Panama . Among his many awards and decorations are: Distinguished Service Cross, 3 Bronze Stars for valor, 3 Purple Hearts, 2 Presidential Unit Citations and the Combat Infantryman Badge. He was also a member at large of the Special Forces Association. He is survived by his sons, Michael Anthony Bustamante and Manuel Bustamante; daughter, Kimberly Michelle Bustamante. He is also survived by his mother, Manuela Campos Bustamante; brothers, Jose Angel Bustamante and Eddie Bustamante; sisters, Ana Marie Hightower and Lucia Bustamante.

GALE EDWARD NELSON, SOA # 2347-GA, MSG, US Army retired, passed away 24 February 2008 at the Carrol S. Robertson Hospice Center . Gale was a member of OP-36B during the Vietnam War, 1970 – 1971. He was awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge, two Bronze Stars for Valor, and three Bronze Stars for Meritorious Service. He is survived by his wife, Doris of the home; a stepdaughter, Sharon of Pennsylvania; a brother, Gene Nelson of Lady Luck, Florida.

ROBIN MOORE SOA # 1770-HL, Civilian, passed away 21 February 2008 at Jennie Stuart Medical Center in Hopkinsville, Kentucky. Robin, age 82, had been suffering from a long list of illnesses. Robin was a well know author of such best sellers as the: "The French Connection" and "The Green Berets". He also collaborated with Barry Sadler in writing "The Ballad of the Green Berets". In 2001, he traveled to Afghanistan and subsequently published another book titled, "The Hunt for Bin Laden". Robin was also a member of the Special Forces Association. He is survived by his wife, Helen.

CHARLES F. HOAGLAND, JR., SOA # 1560-GX, SGM, US Army retired, passed away 4 February 2008 at the Hernando Pasco Hospice Center in Inverness, Florida of natural causes. Chuck served with the 4th MSF Bn, 5th Special Forces Group. Among his many awards and decorations are: Combat Infantryman's Badge, Bronze Star w/Oak Leaf Cluster, Presidential Unit Citation, Air Medal, Meritorious Service Medal w/2 Oak Leaf Clusters, and Army Commendation Medal w/V Device and Oak Leaf Cluster. Chuck was also a member of the Special Forces Association, VFW, American Legion, and DAV. He is survived by his wife, Sharon of Hernando, Florida; a son, Charles F. Hoagland III of Melbourne, Florida; three daughters: Christa Pruitt of Navarre, Florida, Malisa Roach and her husband of Apopka, Florida and Debbie Wetherington and her husband Basil of Englewood, Florida; a brother Walter Hoagland and his wife Bunny of Eustis, Florida, thirteen grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

GARRY L. WRIGHT, SOA # 2383-GA, SFC, US Army retired, passed away 23 January 2008. Gary a proud Cherokee, was born May 10th 1939 at Tulsa, Oklahoma. Gary died from complications from congestive heart failure and diabetes while hospitalized at the Madigan Army Medical Center, Fort Lewis, Washington. Gary served with the 173rd Airborne Brigade during the Vietnam Conflict. He also served with 1st, 5th, 7th and 10th Special Forces Groups. He was the recipient of the Combat Infantryman's Badge, Master Parachutist Badge, Bronze Star, Purple Heart and Army Commendation Medal. He was also a member of the Special Forces Association. Gary is survived by his wife Setsuko; brothers: Don, Mervin and Danny; sisters: Janelle and Sue.

DAVID H. HARRINGTON, SOA # 2145-GA, SMSgt, US Air Force retired, passed away 20 January 2008. David H. Harrington was born on June 4, 1937, in Binghamton, New York. He is now free of pain and anxiety after battling cancer for over six years. Dave enlisted in the Air Force in July 1954. David was assigned to Detachment 6, Project 404, "Water Pump" in Laos. He also supported B-50 and B-52 as a FAC with 21st TASS. He also served with an Air Commando team monitoring Cuban Communications during the Cuban Crisis. David's decorations included two RVN Cross of Gallantry with Palm, Vietnam Service Medal with three Bronze Stars, Air Force Commendation Medal. He also holds the 404th membership card from the Skunk Works for Aircraft U-2R 339. He was awarded a Green Beret in July 1992 for service in RVN with 5th Special Forces. While on TDY to Korea he went to Taiwan during the Quemoy-Matsu Crisis. He was presented with the Badge of Honor by the Taiwan government. David was on the Air Commando Association Board of Directors, a member of Special Forces Association, VFW, American Legion and the DAV. He is survived by his wife, Joyce; brother, Duane; two sons, Lance and Dale; daughter, Dawn Marie; and four grandchildren.

WILLIAM D. BOGGS, SOA # 667-GL, SGM, US Army, retired, passed away 28 December 2007 at his home in Townsend, Massachusetts. Billy retired with twenty-six years of service, twenty-two of which was with Special Forces Units. He was a member of White Star MTT in Laos, Blackjack 21, 5th Special Forces Group, and CCN, MACV-SOG. Billy was the recipient of the Silver Star, Bronze Star, Purple Heart and Combat Infantryman's Badge. He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Patricia; two sons, William and Steven; daughter Kathleen Hulse; brother Donald; sister Barbara Dalrymple; six grandchildren and three great grandsons.

JOHN T. STEPHENS, SOA # 2247-GX, CWO2, US Army, passed away 19 December 2007 at his home in San Antonio, Texas. John served with the 281st Assault Helicopter Company "Wolf Pack" as a Gun Ship Pilot in Vietnam. John was severely wounded on his second tour and his death is attributed to those wounds. He is survived by his son

Anthony.

MICHAEL E. KOESSICK, SOA # 508-GL, LTC, US Army, passed away 17 December 2007 in a hospital in Nairobi, Kenya. Mike served with the PRU in Vietnam. He also served with the 5th & 6th Special Forces Groups. Among his awards and decorations are: the Air Medal, Bronze Star for Valor, and two Purple Hearts. Mike is survived by his wife Carol and two children.

BURL MCDANIEL, SOA # 1192-GL, LTC, US Army, retired, passed away 15 December 2007 at his residence after a long illness. Lt. Col. McDaniel served his country in the United States Army during World War II, Korean War and Vietnam. During the Vietnam War he served with CCS, MACV-SOG. He also served with Detachment "A" in Berlin, Germany. Survivors include his loving wife, Ingrid McDaniel of Melbourne Florida; two sons: Peter (Rachael) McDaniel of Apex, North Carolina and Todd McDaniel of High Point, North Carolina; two daughters: Georgina (Edgar) Whiteman of Fayetteville, North Carolina and Tracey (Thomas) Delbridge of Alexandria, Virginia; four grandchildren, Christopher and Grayson McDaniel and John and Matthew Whiteman; two brothers: Bill McDaniel of Mesa, Arizona and Woody McDaniel of Melbourne, Florida and a sister, GeeNee Piske of Glendale, Arizona.

DAVID L. ROSS, SOA # 354, MSG, US Army, retired, passed away 15 December 2007 at his home in Fayetteville, North Carolina. David served with MACV-SOG during the period 1968 – 1972. He also served with the 5th, 7th and 10th Special Forces Groups and JCRC. David is survived by his wife Kim Hoa Ross of the home; son, Robert Norman Ross and wife Teresa of Hope Mills, North Carolina; three sisters, Carolyn Clifton of Ripon, California, Nancy Sunday of Demorest, Georgia, and Beth Ann Dunn and husband Rick of Silvis, Illinois; and three grandchildren, Robert, Vivian and Samantha.

EDWARD J. COLLINS, SOA # 1976-GL, 1LT, US Army, passed away 2 December 2007. Edward served in the 8240 AU during the Korean War. Among his awards and decoration are the Combat Infantryman's Badge, Korean Service Medal w/two bronze stars and the United Nations Service Medal. Edward was a member of the Special Forces Association, Combat Infantryman's Association, VFW, American Legion and Korean War Veteran's Association. He retired from GTE after thirty years of service. He is survived by his former wife Elinor Collins; daughter Kathleen Kermarrec; two grandsons, James Collins and Kane McGee of Billerica; two sisters Mary Winters and Irene Spellman of Falmouth, Massachusetts.

JOHN E. EDMUNDS, SOA #1197-GL, SGM, US Army, retired, passed away 2

December 2007 at Flagler Hospital. John was a native of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania but resided in St. Augustine, Florida for the last 17 years. He served in the US Marine Corps during WW II, but reenlisted in the US Army, and then volunteered for Special Forces in 1954. John would serve two tours on White Star/Hot Foot in 1959 and then again in 1962. He also served in Vietnam with B-36, 5th Special Forces Group. His other Special Forces assignments were with 77th, 10th, 7th and 3rd Special Forces Groups. Among his awards and decorations are the Combat Infantryman's Badge-2nd Award, Master Parachute Badge, Glider Badge and the Army Commendation Medal. John is survived by his wife Betty Edmunds; sons Steve of St Augustine and David of Lumberton, North Carolina; and sister Jean Edmunds of St. Augustine.

WILBER "BACSI" DONALDSON, SOA # 1490-GA, SFC, US Army, retired, passed away 23 November 2007 at his home in Enterprise, Alabama following a brief illness Wilber was 73. Wilber was born 1934 in Coffee, Alabama. He enlisted in the United States Army in 1952 and after spending 10 years in the Medical Field, he volunteered for Special Forces. Wilber was a member of RT Alaska on Operation "Shining Brass", MACV-SOG. He also served with 1st Special Forces Group, Okinawa and Vietnam, 5th Special Forces Group, Fort Bragg and Vietnam, and 3rd Special Forces Group. Wilber was selected and attended the British Jungle Warfare School in Malaya. He retired in 1972 and embarked on a second career in Civil Service working at the Navy Hospital at Saufley Field. Among his many awards and decorations are the US Army Presidential Unit Citation, Bronze Star for Valor and two for Meritorious Service, Combat Infantryman's Badge, Combat Divers Badge, two Army Commendation Medals and Master Parachutists Badge. He is survived by his wife of seventeen years Mary Catherine (Cathie) Parker Donaldson of Enterprise, Alabama; sister and brother-in-law, Juanita and Sebert Bowman of Macon, Georgia; son, Michael Shelby Donaldson; step-son, Anthony Steven Kwence of Virginia and grandchildren Caitlin Beth and Connor.

JOHN V. STRYKER, SOA # 2033-GL, CW4, US Army, retired, passed away 21 November 2007 at his home. John was born on July 4 1935 in Clinton, New Jersey. John joined the 1st Air Commando Wing in 1962. He deployed to Vietnam in 1963. Upon his return to the United States, he attended Jump School and became a Combat Controller. He returned to Vietnam as a Combat Controller. He received an appointment to Warrant Officer in the United States Army. He volunteered for Special Forces and after his SF Qualification; he served with 5th and 7th Special Forces Groups. Upon his retirement after 30 years, he worked at the Directorate of Combat Developments, USAJFKSWCS, Fort Bragg and the Infil/Exfil Branch, USSCOM, Mac Dill AFB. Among his many awards and decorations are the Presidential Unit Citation, Bronze Star w/Oak Leaf Cluster, Air Medal, Combat Infantryman's Badge, Air Force and Army Commendation Medals, Master Parachutist Badge, Scuba Badge and Pathfinder

Badge. A son and three grandchildren survive him.

Gary F. Marte, SOA #1054, MAJ, U.S. Marines, age 69, died Saturday, May 5, 2007, in Oceanside, California. Born Oct. 30, 1937, in San Francisco, he lived in Oceanside for 28 years. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps for 30 years as a parachutist, in the infantry First Force Recon and as a correction officer. He worked in civil service for 20 years and was the director of billeting for Bachelor Housing. Mr. Marte was preceded in death by his parents, Essie and Frederico Marte. He is survived by his wife of 48 years, Roselle Marte, of Oceanside; son Gregg Marte of Oceanside; daughter and son-in-law Kimberly Marte and Christoph Jess of Eagle Rock; sisters Blanche Henniger, Julia Marte, and LEEANNE Marte, all of Oahu, Hawaii; sister DONDUS Marte; sister-in-law Esther Somer; brother and sister-in-law Michael and Toni Marte of San Jose; and three grandchildren.