

MY VISIT TO THE VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL WALL IN DC ON 11 NOV 05

L. STEVEN MOORE



*Together Then
Together Again
Helping the Healing To Begin*

9 Nov

WE STARTED OUR WEEKEND BY GOING TO THE WALTER REED HOSPITAL AND VISITING WITH TWELVE WOUNDED VETERANS FROM IRAQ. THIS WAS EMOTIONALLY DRAINING, YET EXTREMELY REWARDING. OUR MISSION WAS TO ENCOURAGE, UPLIFT AND ASSURE THEM THAT WE ALL ARE PROUD OF THEM AND WILL NOT FORGET THEIR SACRIFICE. WE DID NOT SHARE OUR ENCOUNTERS AT VARIOUS HOSPITALS CONCERNING OUR WOUNDS, IT SEEMED IRRELEVANT TO THEIR CONDITION. PHONE CARDS WERE HANDED OUT ALONG WITH OTHER ITEMS INCLUDING AN AMERICAN FLAG.

AS THEIR STORIES WERE SHARED, WE LISTENED, WE PRAYED, WE HURT WITH THEM. MAY WE NEVER FORGET WHAT THE PRICE OF FREEDOM REALLY IS.

10 Nov

THE DAY STARTED AT THE MARINE CORPS MEMORIAL AS THEY CELEBRATED THEIR BIRTHDAY. SINCE MOST OF MY TIME IN NAM WAS ATTACHED TO THE 3RD MARINE DIVISION, I FEEL CLOSER TO THEM THAN WITH ANY ARMY UNIT.





**DURING OUR VISIT IN
2004, WE MET WITH
COL JOHN RIPLEY,
A CAPTAIN WHEN
WE SERVED TOGETHER
IN VIETNAM IN 1967**

JOE - ME - RIPLEY - JOHN - DON - BRUCE

11 Nov

WE BEGAN THE DAY BY WALKING MY HIGH SCHOOL BUDDY MIKE STULTS DOWN THE WALL. HE HAD JUST FOUND HIS COLLEGE ROOMMATES NAME ON THE WALL AND WISHED TO HONOR HIM.

MIKE





**I WAS HONORED TO BE ABLE TO SPEAK
AT THE WOMAN'S MEMORIAL AT 11:30.
ATTACHED IS A COPY OF MY TALK**

SOME OF MY MEN AND FRIENDS



**A LARGE CROWD IS ALWAYS PRESENT
TO HONOR OUR FALLEN BROTHERS**



**GENERAL MOORE AND THE MEN PORTRAYED
IN "WE WERE SOLDIERS: MARCHED DOWN THE
WALL TOGETHER.**





I STOOD GUARD OVER THE WREATH FOR THE DUSTERS, QUADS AND SEARCHLIGHTS ASSOCIATION

OUR MEN PRESENTING THE WREATH



ROGER KOOPMAN, ANOTHER HIGH SCHOOL BUDDY JOIN US FOR THE REST OF THE DAY. THIS WAS HIS FIRST VISIT TO THE WALL WHERE THERE ARE SOME OF HIS MEN'S NAMES ENGRAVED.

BEN WEBSTER WITH POINT MAN MINISTRIES HAS HELPED MYSELF AND MANY OTHER VETS BEGIN TO HEAL.

SSGT SHARON SINKLAIR ALSO WORKS HARD TO HELP VETERANS OF ALL GENERATIONS TO HEAL.

ROGER – ME – BEN – SHARON – MIKE

AFTER 40 YEARS SEPARATION, ROGER, MIKE AND MYSELF WERE ABLE TO SHARE SOME OF OUR NEEDS, HURTS, JOYS AND MEMORIES OF TIMES PAST. TIMES AS YOUNG INNOCENT MEN FROM THE SAME CHURCH YOUTH GROUP IN BELOIT WISCONSIN TO TIMES SPENT IN VIETNAM AS OFFICERS. THIS WAS A PRECIOUS TIME, TALKING TILL 3:30AM. WE EACH HEALED A LITTLE, WEPT A LITTLE, LAUGHED A LOT AND ENJOYED GETTING REACQUAINTED.

THE ETCHING OF A NAME, A FRIEND, A BROTHER

JOE ROGER



ROGER MIKE



EACH YEAR I MEET NEW BROTHERS WHO SERVED ALONG WITH ME. THESE ARE FOUR MARINES WHO WERE AT THE SAME PLACE, SAME TIME AND FOUGHT SIDE BY SIDE WITH ME IN '67-'68 NEAR THE DMZ.



MIKE CALUCCI WHO TRAINED WITH ME IN D - 4/60 AND WENT TO NAM ON THE BOAT WITH ME. 37 YEARS BETWEEN OUR MEETING AGAIN.



CHARLIE MCDUFFEY—CAL MURPHY—DON WOLFE

CAL ETCHES THE NAMES OF HIS BUDDIES DURING HIS FIRST VISIT TO THE WALL

