



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: RAUSCH

ROBERT E.

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: MAJOR

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

12TH TACTICAL RECONNAISSANCE SQUADRON, 460TH TACTICAL RECONNAISSANCE WING, 7TH AIR FORCE

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

AIR MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE RIBBON

Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Major Robert E. Rausch, a Pilot and Navigator, was Killed in Action on 16 April 1970 over Quang Tri Province, South Vietnam

On 16 April 1970, an RF-4C Phantom with a two man crew of Major Ayers and Captain Robert E. Rausch departed Tan Son Nhut Air Base, Saigon to conduct reconnaissance along the Demilitarized Zone separating North and South Vietnam as well as the adjacent area of Savannakhet Province, Laos. They refueled in flight and advised their controller that they were heading north to another target area. The new target area was known to be a high threat area with 37mm and other anti-aircraft weapons. They were last reported over Savannakhet

Province but did not return from their mission and were declared missing in action. During the period he was reported missing, Robert E. Rausch was promoted to the rank of Major

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Major Robert E. Rausch was 35 years of age at the time of his death

In the first four full months of operation in Southeast Asia, crews of the 12th Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron flew 2,014 combat sorties against pinpoint, strip, and area cover targets in North Vietnam, South Vietnam, and



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Laos. Approximately two-thirds of these were flown at night / Continuous information on enemy supply movements, troop concentrations, and fortifications was obtained from aerial photography taken by the 12th / In addition, photography taken by the unit was used in bomb damage assessment, base defense planning, and enemy air defense site detection / The 12th flew more than 26,000 combat sorties and 53,000 hours over a 5-year period. This was more than in both World Wars and Korea combined

The Phantom, used by Air Force, Marine and Navy air wings, served a multitude of functions including fighter-bomber and interceptor, photo and electronic surveillance. The two man aircraft was extremely fast (Mach 2), and had a long range (900 - 2300 miles, depending on stores and mission type). The F4 was also extremely maneuverable and handled well at low and high altitudes. Most pilots considered it one of the "hottest" planes around



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Name: ROSEN

ROBERT W.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address: MELROSE STREET

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Year Entered: 1965

Year Discharged: 1967

Unit / Squadron:

1ST COMBAT ENGINEERS BATTALION

1ST INFANTRY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL W/1 STAR

PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER/M-79 GRANADE LAUNCHER

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER/RIFLE

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Robert W. Rosen served as a Portable Bridge Erection Specialist

Base Assignments:

Cu Chi, South Vietnam-Cambodian Border

Ben Cat, "Iron Triangle", South Vietnam

Miscellaneous:

Robert W. Rosen graduated from Kensington High School in 1963 and was employed by the Bethlehem Steel Corporation as a Structural Inspector prior to entering military service / After his Honorable Discharge from the Army, Rosen worked for 2 years at Bergman Tool & Die as an apprentice, followed by employment at the J.H. Williams & Company as an Apprentice Toolmaker and Journeyman / Rosen joined the Buffalo Forge Company where he was employed for 9 years as a Head Toolmaker / Changing professions, Rosen became a Security Officer, eventually working for GHS Security as an Armed Bank Protection Officer at the Bank of America / After 10 years at GHS Security, Rosen retired, but not before earning commendations for security operations during the Flight 3406 disaster, Top Gun Competition in 2007 and a Safety Commendation Award from GHS

Cu Chi, South Vietnam-Cambodian Border - Guerrilla troops known as Viet Cong (VC) dug tens of thousands of



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miles of tunnels, including an extensive network running underneath the Cu Chi district northwest of Saigon / Soldiers used these underground routes to house troops, transport communications and supplies, lay booby traps and mount surprise attacks, after which they could disappear underground to safety / To combat these guerrilla tactics, U.S. and South Vietnamese forces trained soldiers known as "tunnel rats" to navigate the tunnels in order to detect booby traps and enemy troop presence / Now part of a Vietnam War memorial park in Ho Chi Minh City (formerly Saigon), the Cu Chi tunnels have become a popular tourist attraction

"Iron Triangle", South Vietnam - In December 1966, intelligence reports indicated that large units of both Viet Cong and North Vietnamese troops were garrisoned in an area about 12 miles northwest of Saigon known as the "Iron Triangle," bordered by the Saigon River on the southwest leg, the Thi Tinh River to the east and a line between the villages of Ben Suc and Ben Cat to the north / In 1967-68, American forces launched two campaigns to try to oust the Viet Cong from the "Iron Triangle", Operation Cedar Falls and Operation Junction City / The two operations resulted in approximately 3,500 of the Viet Cong and North Vietnamese killed at an American cost of 350 lives



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Name: **ROZELL**

EDWARD A.

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address: 79 FLOHR AVENUE

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS.

Rank: LCPL

Year Entered: 1969

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

A CO, 1ST BATTALION, 1ST MARINES, 1ST MARINE DIVISION (MARDIV), III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCES (MAF)

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE RIBBON

Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Lance Corporal Edward A. Rozell was Killed in Action on 31 January 1970 during a battle with Viet Cong forces near Da Nang, in the province of Quang Nam, South Vietnam

LCpl Rozell had served in the Marine Corp. for about a year and was sent to Vietnam as a Rifleman in September 1969

Base Assignments:

Parris Island, South Carolina - Marine Corps Recruit Depot (MCRD) Parris Island is a Marine Corps. military installation located within Port Royal, South Carolina. MCRD Parris Island was established on 1 November 1915 and designated for the training of enlisted Marines. Male recruits living east of the Mississippi River and female recruits from all over the United States report to Parris Island to receive their initial training.

Miscellaneous:

Edward Rozell attended West Seneca High School prior to enlisting in the Marine Corp.

Lance Corporal Edward A. Rozell was 18 years of age at the time of his death

During the Vietnam War, the III Marine Amphibious Force (MAF) was a reinforced corps comprising two divisions, an air wing, and a division-sized logistics command / It consisted of both the 3d Marine Division and the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing (MAW) / By the end of 1966, the two Marine divisions of III MAF were fighting two



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separate wars. In the north, the 3d Marine Division fought a more or less conventional campaign while the 1st Marine Division took over the counter-guerrilla operations in the populous south / the III Marine Amphibious Forces participated in the Vietnam War from May 1965 through April 1971 operating from Quang Tri, Thua Thien, Quang Nam, Quang Tin, and Quang Ngai



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Name: RUDNICKI

PAUL E.

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address: RESERVE ROAD

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CAPTAIN

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1972

Unit / Squadron:

UNITED STATES ARMY, VIETNAM (USARV)

56TH ARMY POSTAL UNIT (APU)

Medals / Citations:

BRONZE STAR

AIR MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Captain Paul E. Rudnicki was assigned to many Army bases, serving as a Military Judge / While stationed in Long Binh Post, Vietnam, Captain Rudnicki served as Post Judge Advocate

Base Assignments:

Long Binh Post, Vietnam - Long Binh Post is a former U.S. Army base located in Long Bình ward between Biên Hòa and Saigon, Vietnam / The base functioned as a U.S. Army base, logistics center, and major command headquarters for United States Army Vietnam (USARV) / By mid-1967, United States Army, Vietnam (USARV), 1st Logistical Command and many other Army units dispersed in Saigon were moved to Long Binh Post to resolve centralization, security, and troop billeting issues / Long Binh Post was a sprawling logistics facility and the largest U.S. Army base in Vietnam, with a peak of 60,000 personnel in 1969 / Long Binh Post was the target of several attacks, especially during the Tet Offensive in 1968 as well as 1969 / Long Binh Post included the Long Binh Stockade, a U.S. Army prison, from 1966 to the 1970s also known unofficially as "LBJ" or "Long Binh Jail"

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge, Paul Rudnicki began his post-military career as an attorney / Rudnicki is a lifetime member and Judge Advocate of American Legion Post 735 and a member of the Western New York Chapter 77 of the Vietnam Veterans of America, serving as President of the VALOR Committee

Judge advocates are attorneys who perform legal duties while serving in the U.S. Armed Forces / They provide



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legal services to their branch of the armed forces and Legal Representation to members of the Armed Services / The duties of a Judge Advocate also focus on the areas of criminal law, legal assistance, civil/administrative law, labor/employment law, international/operational law and contract/fiscal law, and medical law

United States Army Republic of Vietnam (USARV) was an corps-level support command of the United States Army in the Vietnam War / USARV was created on 20 July 1965 out of the U.S. Army Support Command, Vietnam / USARV controlled the activities of all U.S. Army service and logistical units in South Vietnam until 15 May 1972, when its structure was merged with the Military Assistance Command, Vietnam (MACV) to become USARV/MACV Support Command, which was disbanded on 28 March 1973 after completion of withdrawal of all combat and support units / USARV controlled ten major support commands in Vietnam, and also supervised 71 smaller units

The 56th Army Postal Unit (APU) received the Meritorious Unit Commendation by distinguishing itself in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period of 19 March 1968 through 20 May 1969 / The Commendation cites the men and officers who exhibited resourcefulness and organizational expertise in the outstanding performance of difficult tasks inherent in the strategic support of Long Binh Post