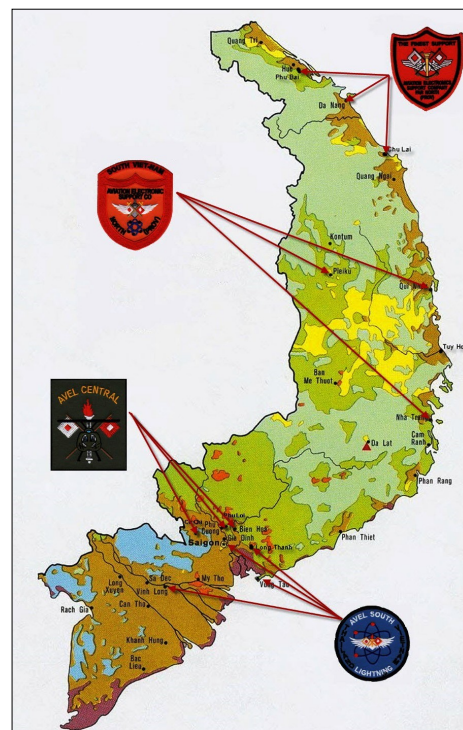


Renowned sculptor who created Vietnam Women's Memorial dies at age 80



Born in 1939 in Lubbock, Texas, Goodacre graduated from Colorado College and studied at the Art Students League of New York. She began her artistic life as a painter but became known for three-dimensional work that focused on the figure.

Her first small bronze sculpture was cast in 1969 by the writer and treasure-hider Forrest Fenn, who had a foundry and gallery in Lubbock. In 1973, when Fenn opened his gallery in Santa Fe, Goodacre's art was on display from the first day.

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The Vietnam Women's Memorial, dedicated Nov. 11, 1993, depicts three uniformed nurses caring for a wounded soldier and honors women who risked their lives to serve their country.

"My desire to create a lasting tribute to the American women serving in Vietnam is founded upon my deep respect for each of them, and my heartfelt prayer for their 'healing and hope,' " Goodacre wrote in her sculptor's notes.

"I have been humbled by the enormity of such a task yet incredibly honored by the overwhelming gratitude of the veterans. The emphasis of this tribute is centered on their emotions: their compassion, their anxiety, their fatigue, and above all, their dedication. That my hands can shape the clay which might touch the hearts and heal the wounds of those who served fills me with humility and deep satisfaction."

Goodacre died on 13 April, 2020.

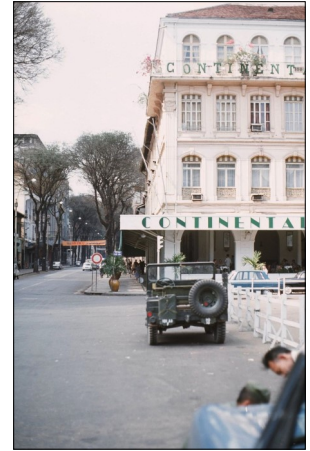
Saigon has definitely changed over the years since we were there

Do you remember the French architecture and the tree lined streets? The roof top terrace bars of the Continental, Caravelle and Rex Hotels?

You can picture Graham Greene banging away at his typewriter in his room at the Continental writing his novel *The Quiet American*. But, that was 1955. When our war was in full swing it was American G.I.'s not expats who lined the bars in Saigon.

Not all Americans were lucky enough to ever visit Saigon much less share a few cocktails at the old remnants of the French colonial empire. Some did though. Some small units were even put up in hotels, at least for a short while until the war machine really went into high gear.

G.I.'s in Saigon's bars became a common sight in the 60's and 70's. Tu Do Street was a sought after visit for those lucky enough to wrangle a visit.



Well, things have really changed in Saigon (Ho Chi Minh City for those that are politically correct).

Roof top bars are plentiful and much more appealing than the smokey, run down bars we frequented.

I don't think any of us would be able to recognize any of the sights in the new Vietnam. The buildings for the most part are modern structures. From the photos I have seen I would be shocked at the change. I imagine the smell is the same. Of course the heat would be and of course the traffic. I have no desire to go back but it would be interesting.

LOOK AT SOME OF THE BARS IN SAIGON NOW!



Columbia Asia Binh Duong Hospital

Columbia Asia Hospital is a modern facility located in Binh Duong Province. It is actually on Highway 13, about halfway between Phu Loi and Di An. Remembering the area from 1970-1972 I can't imagine this.

Columbia Asia Binh Duong first opened in 2012 in response to the area's considerable growth. Factories and offices in the area had attracted a large population of foreigners, namely Korean and Japanese, yet the closest international medical services were all located far away in the center of Saigon. As the first international hospital established in the area, it was built to meet the medical needs of the foreign and local communities alike. With 100 patient beds, the two-story building allows for a smooth patient flow while new medical technologies decrease the number of invasive treatments and optimize the efficiency of patient care resulting in shorter stays.

Columbia Asia is a multinational chain of hospitals in Asia with 29 medical facilities spread across Malaysia, India, Indonesia, and Vietnam that all adhere to the same strict standard operating procedures. Such an international arrangement helps ensure that Columbia Asia Binh Duong has access to top-of-the-line technology, expert physicians and the ability to accept a wide range of insurance networks, including the government-issued plan.

Progress!



ALL AVEL REUNION 2020

**Virginia Beach, Virginia
October 15 - 18, 2020**

Plans are tentative, details to follow as time goes on.
Right now we will continue as planned.

DoubleTree by Hilton
1900 Pavilion Dr.
Virginia Beach, VA 23452
757-422-8900

Room Rate is \$107.00/night plus tax
This special room rate will be honored 3 days prior and 3 days post event

Early Bird, Tuesday October 13th, 2020

Early Bird arrivals can explore Virginia Beach and the area on their own.
There is a lot to see and do.

Early Bird, Wednesday October 14th, 2020

Early Bird arrivals can explore Virginia Beach and the area on their own.
There is a lot to see and do.

Thursday October 15th, 2020

The Hospitality Room will be open and well stocked with adult beverages and snacks!
There will be several possible carpool events. Watch for details.

Friday October 16th, 2020

The Hospitality Room will be open and well stocked with adult beverages and snacks!
There will be a group bus to Colonial Williamsburg. *(Paid by Avel)*

Saturday October 17th, 2020

John Veers Martini Golf Outing
Ladies Luncheon *(Paid by Avel)*
Group Banquet. Cash bar during dinner. *(Dinner paid by Avel)*
The Hospitality Room will be open after dinner until 23:00

Sunday October 18th, 2020

Final goodbyes and head home until next year

Other activities are possible. Planning will continue.

Preparations for the Reunion will continue but due to the uncertainty surrounding the Corona Virus we may have to have to cancel. Time will tell. As of right now we have **73** early registrations. If you want to attend please go to the website and pre-register www.avelvietnam.com.

The Reunion cost is still \$70.00 per person. Checks can be sent now. If we have to cancel the Reunion you will receive a full refund.

Your check should be made payable to AVEL REUNION.

Mail them to: Jack McCabe
2120 Augusta National DR.
Denver, NC 28037

STAY SAFE!

NEW AVEL, AVIONICS AND VIETNAM VETERANS REGISTERED

Simmons, William (Bill) (CPT)

1604, Southeastern Trl.
Round Rock, TX 78664
512-255-6070

B/3/17th Air Cav., Phu Loi: Nov 1971-Apr 1972

bsimmonscca@gmail.com

MOS: Infantry

Army Retired, LTC

AGENT ORANGE

Martin, Jim (Mickey)(SGT)

56 Sandpiper Ct.
Conway, AR 72032
501-908-3541

Avel North 614th, PLEIKU 3rd platoon: 1969-1970

butch.martin60@yahoo.com

MOS: 76U20 and 76Q20

AGENT ORANGE

TAPS

Gene Herron

Avel Central

Gene died on February 23rd, 2020. He was 72 years old.

He attended the Avel Reunion in Charleston, 2011



PHOTOS

Fred Wilson submitted his photos of Avel South, Vinh Long

I uploaded photos from the Avel South Yearbook, 1967

CHANGE OF ADDRESS/EMAIL/PHONE

Mike Westbrook (34th Group) is now at: 125 Deer Horn Drive, Emerald Isle NC 28594

Dave D'Alonzo (Avel Central) has a new address and email: 1780 Estuary Lane, Celebration, FL 34747,

Dpdalonzo@gmail.com

Send your change of address and email to jmccabe51@gmail.com

IN-COUNTRY

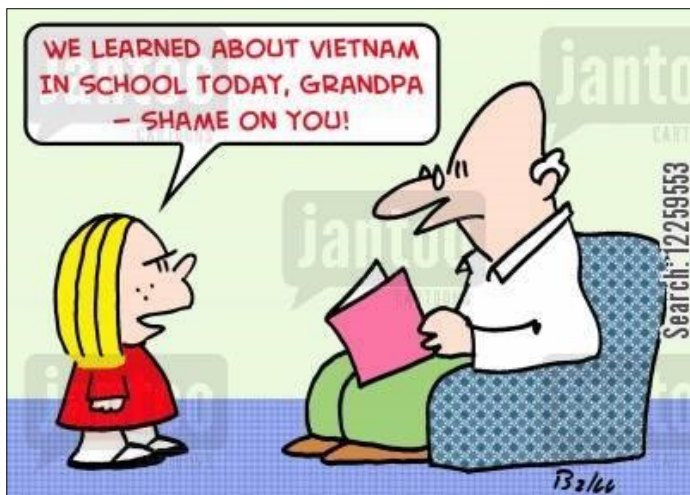


WHAT A DIFFERENCE A DAY MAKES...

IN-COUNTRY VET



WHEN YOU JUST CAN'T BELIEVE YOUR EARS!

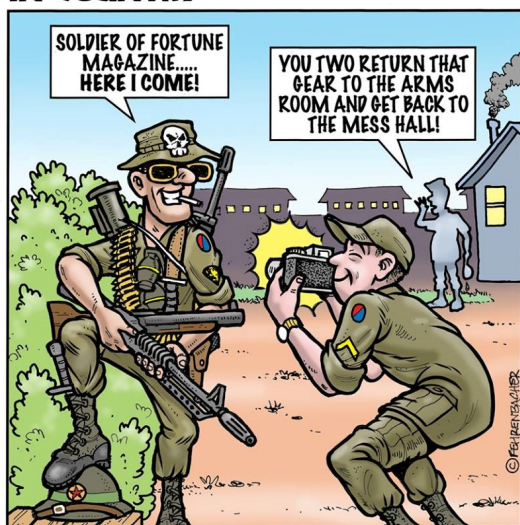


I saw this cartoon and it made me think. Was she taught how wrong the war was and of course us?

Or, was grandpa a draft dodger?

I guess it is all in the interpretation

IN-COUNTRY



JUST "POSING" FOR A PICTURE, SARGE!

IN-COUNTRY



UTILIZING THE MILITARY INCENTIVE PROGRAM.



AVEL VIETNAM



April/May 2020 Newsletter