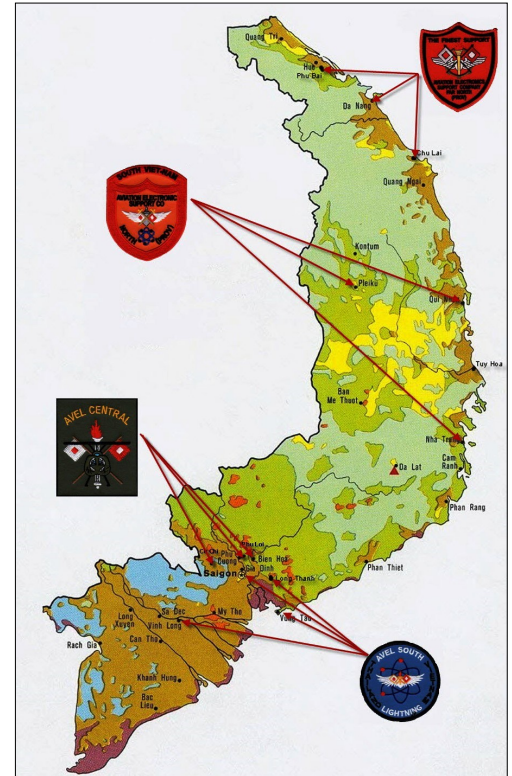


Donut Dollies Veterans All

Donut Dollies - do you remember them? I recall seeing them twice. Once when I arrived in-country (can't remember if it was the first time or second). They were handing out COLD soft drinks and cigarettes. The second time was at Phu Loi but I can't remember the year.

Donut Dollies were amazing women who volunteered for the American Red Cross to go to Vietnam and bring a *Touch of Home* to the troops. They didn't have to be there. They risked everything including their life. Still they came at a time when public opinion was against the war and the warriors. They received no rewards, no accolades, no medals and no benefits for their service.

Donut Dollies were civilians working for the Red Cross but they faced the danger and uncertainties of everyday life in a combat zone just like every GI, Marine, Sailor and Airman in Vietnam. They all did it willingly and without complaint. They were exposed to rocket & mortar attacks and small arms fire. They were exposed to Agent Orange and the daily risks of flying in Vietnam. They don't get any help from the VA like we do.



I have found three Dollies that lost their life in Vietnam. I also found one who was wounded.

Hannah Elizabeth Crews

Hannah was born in Lenoir, North Carolina on 12 May 1946. She joined the Red Cross and was sent to Vietnam where she was assigned to Bien Hoa,

On October 1st, 1969 she was killed in a jeep accident. She was 23 years old. She is buried in Thomasville, North Carolina.

Details of the accident are not known.



Virginia E. “Ginny” Kirsch

Ginny was born on 2 December 1948 in Erie, Pennsylvania. She joined the American Red Cross in July 1970. She attended Red Cross training in Washington DC and was sent to Vietnam approximately 2 weeks later.

Ginny was assigned to Cu Chi with the 25th Infantry Division. During the 2 weeks Ginny was in-country she had been taken by helicopter to remote outposts where she provided a much-needed distraction to the men stationed there with her games and other audience participation skits and exercises designed to ease the stress levels of the men, even if only for a little while. Just her presence lifted the men's spirits as she was a reminder of what was waiting for them back home. She had only been back in the base camp at Cu Chi, home to the 25th Infantry Division, for a day or two. On August 16, 1970 she was murdered.



The morning after Ginny was murdered, an Army soldier named Gregory W. Kozlowski was found to be in possession of a tape recorder and camera which was stolen from the Red Cross billets between 1:00 – 3:50 AM that day, the approximate time of Ginny's murder. Army investigators were concerned about Kozlowski's mental status. He was flown to Japan with a preliminary diagnosis of having a mental illness. He was sent back to the United States.

On October 21, 1970, Kozlowski shot himself but did not die. He received medical treatment for the wound and was transferred to Letterman Army General Hospital, at the Presidio, San Francisco. Because there was evidence of mental illness, his case was referred to a medical board for psychiatric evaluation. On January 9, 1971, an Army Medical Review Board issued a finding that Kozlowski was unable to determine right and wrong at the time of Ginny's murder and that he was unable to cooperate intelligently in his own defense. As a result, his pending murder charges were dismissed.

On June 8, 1972, Kozlowski was arrested for the murder of Kenneth A. Glasse, 21 years old, of Milwaukee. The murder occurred in Horicon, Dodge County, Wisconsin. Kozlowski was charged with first degree murder and held in Dodge County Jail under the jurisdiction of Sheriff Edward Nehls. While incarcerated in jail, Kozlowski asked to speak to the Sheriff and admitted to him that he was guilty of murdering a Red Cross girl in Cu Chi, South Vietnam, on August 16, 1970. The sheriff contacted the Army in Washington and confirmed what Kozlowski had told him and they verified Kozlowski was a suspect in Ginny's murder. However, the Army never came to take custody of Kozlowski.

Kozlowski stood trial for the murder of Kenneth Glasse but was found "Not Guilty By Reason of Insanity". He was, however, committed to a mental health institution.

Ginny is buried in St. Mary's Cemetery in Hermitage, Pennsylvania. She was 21 years old.

Lucinda J. Richter

Lucinda was born on 7 November 1948 in St. Paul, Minnesota. She joined the American Red Cross and was assigned to Cam Ranh Bay, Vietnam.

She became ill with post infectious polyneuritis "Gillian-Barre Syndrome". She died in 483 USAF Hospital at Cam Ranh Bay on 9 February 1971. She was 21 years old.

She is buried in St. Paul.

"Dusty" Hall

Dusty was a unit director from Little Rock, Arkansas. While flying in a Huey near Pleiku in 1967 the ship took ground fire. Dusty was hit in the leg or hip from the fire that came through the floor. She was flying with another Donut Dolly. The other girl unfastened her seat belt and went over to Dusty and held her while the Huey crashed. After the crash the crew, Dusty and the other Dolly left the proximity of the ship fearing an explosion. The other Dolly ran back to the ship for the first aid kit. They patched up Dusty as best they could until they were picked up.

Dusty was treated and sent back to the States to recover. No Purple Heart.

Sharon Wesley

Sharon was not working for The American Red Cross when she died. But, she was a Donut Dolly in 1970-1971. She then worked for the Army Special Services. After United States troops pulled out in 1973 she decided to stay and started working for the U.S. Government.

She took part in Operation Babylift in 1975. She was aboard an Air Force C5 Galaxy when it crashed on 4 April 1975. It was flying babies out of Saigon. 153 people lost their life.

Sharon is buried in Muskogee, Oklahoma.



Penni Evans, Donut Dolly

It has been my pleasure to meet a couple Donut Dollies recently. One is Penni Evans. Penni served in Vietnam with the Red Cross Donut Dollies from March 1970 to March 1971. She served at Can Ranh Bay, II Field Force Long Binh, Cu Chi and Quang Tri.

Penni, like all Donut Dollies was exposed to repeated rocket and mortar attacks. She went out in the bush to visit with the troops and raise moral. She was exposed to Agent Orange but Penni gets no help from the VA. She is a Vietnam veteran like all of us.

If you come across a Donut Dolly be sure to tell her ***"Welcome Home!"***

Penni wrote a poem and has allowed me to share it here.



DD 214

She didn't have a DD 214
But she had the red mud
On her shoes
The red dust on her legs
And arms, in her hair

She rode the Huey to
War most days
Or jounced in jeeps or
Deuce and a halves on trails
That were roads

She spent time in the heat
And the monsoons
Out beyond the perimeter

Perched on a jungle mountain
Sharing C Rat tea and peaches
With a radio relay team

She smelled the shit cans burning
The smell of fuel and sweat
She saw the body bags
She rode on choppers with them

She watched as black plastic
Bags came from the OR
Hands and feet outlined in plastic
Boots on or off, didn't matter

She heard the sounds of the blades
As Dust Offs dropped from the cloudy sky
She watched the grunts come in from patrol
Sometimes even handed out clean towels
And uniforms

Or fed them under the mess tent
Grunts in shock at seeing a round eye
She heard the red alert siren
And the rockets screaming overhead
Exploding and creating a weather of shrapnel rain

She saw the tracers below
Both the red and the green
She heard the sound of flares
Parachuting down

But without that DD 214
Some don't consider her
A Vietnam Veteran

Because she wore a power blue
Red Cross uniform rather than
An OD green or cammie uniform

But many brothers have said
To Hell with that DD 214
You are our sisters
You were boots on the ground

Welcome Home Sister
Couldn't find the words then
To Thank You
But Thank You for what you did for us
For A Touch of Home

In Peace, Penni

NEW AVEL, AVIONICS AND VIETNAM VETERANS REGISTERED

Gudahl, Greg (SP/5)

892 Wolfpen Hollow
Camdenton, MO 65020
573-873-3048

*Avel North, Pleiku: Jan. 1967-
Dec. 1970*

gagudahl@gmail.com
MOS: 35M20

Watson, Raymond K. (SP/5)

931 County Rd. 23
Edwards, NY 13635
315-783-2458

Avel Central, Cu Chi: 1969

Goodfred, George (SP/5)

1502 McIntosh Dr.
Julliet, TN 37122
615-553-4241

Avel Central, Cu Chi: 1969

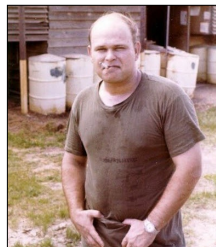
TAPS

Hurrelbrink, David (SSG)

Avel Central, Phu Loi: 1970-1971

Died: 15 January, 2013

He was 69 years old



Gary Clark (Avel Central, Phu Loi) reported the passing of his wife last February. Please keep her in your prayers

PHOTOS

Photos were submitted by:

Gary Clark, Avel central submitted two photos. They are on the website in the Avel Central, 1972 page.

Roland Langlois, 317th Maintenance Co. (LEM) submitted three photos. They are on the 317th, Vung Tau page. Roland is also looking for Richard Gordon or anyone that knew him while in Vietnam.

AVEL REUNION 2015 UPDATE

It is getting close to the Reunion. Please REGISTER NOW! You can always cancel if things change in your life. We have reserved the buses for the trip to Parris Island and will need an accurate count so we have enough but don't over book. **Register on the website** www.avelvietnam.com

Make your Hotel Reservations Now! Call the hotel at the number below. If you have special needs or need a handicap room be sure to tell them.

Tell the hotel you are with the "AVEL GROUP" for our special rate.

Town & Country Inn & Suites

800-334-6660

We have **75** people who have registered for the Reunion so far. They include 44 Vets and 31 guests.

AVEL Far North: John Andes & Wanda Bennett, Keith & Sheila Marston, Gerald & Nancy Osgood, Pete & Mary Lee Poirier, Gary & Vada Timberlake, Jim Wells, Marvin & Gale York

AVEL North: Aaron & Judy Bass, Leon Chlebowski, Bob & Kathryn Crutchfield, Fred & Carla Enslen, Orbin & Carolyn Hall, Dan & Dee Harmon, Jerry Hicks & Pamela Harrell, Jerry Parks, John Peacock, Andy Yancey.

AVEL Central: Ed & Darla Ardell, Pete & Bianca Biancalana, Gary Bishop, Mike & Dawn Blatt, Harold Emde, Bill Fesus, Greg & Gayle Garrison, Bruce & Ruth Goff, Dale & Marsha Link, Bob Madore, Jerry & Debbie Mahanay, Russ & Pat Mason, Joe & Joan Matos, Jack & Pat McCabe, Hector & Nancy Ramirez, Lynn (Rock) Rothrock, Roger & Jane Shiley, Bob & Linda Smith, Tony & Jean Stribling, John & Jane Veers

AVEL South: John, Leah & Sarah Chapman, Mario & Marcela De Leon, Bill & Nettie Engels, Carl Hagenstein

Non-AVEL Vets: John Bishop, Chuck James, Tom McCabe

Remains of Vietnam Airman finally laid to rest 49 years after he was killed in action

SALISBURY, NC 25 June 2015 (WBTV) -

Crowds lined interstate bridges and the streets of downtown Salisbury on Thursday to pay tribute to fallen U.S. Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Edwin E. Morgan, 38, who was killed in action in Vietnam in 1966.

On March 13, 1966, Morgan was assigned to the 6252nd Combat Support Group, as the loadmaster of an AC-47D gunship aircraft, that departed Da Nang Air Base, Vietnam, on an armed reconnaissance mission along the Vietnam-Laos border. The aircraft failed to return and neither Morgan nor the aircraft was seen again. Morgan was listed missing in action and a military review board later amended his status to presumed dead.

In 1992 and 1996, U.S. teams attempted to locate the crash site in Vietnam and Laos, but were unsuccessful. On Feb. 9, 1997, a joint U.S./Lao People's Democratic Republic (L.P.D.R.) team located a crash site in Xekong Province, Laos. On Feb. 8, 2010, another joint U.S./L.P.D.R. team surveyed the crash site, successfully recovering remains and military equipment. The team confirmed that the crash site was consistent with an AC-47 or AC-47 aircraft with at least one crewman aboard. Scientists from DPAA used circumstantial evidence and dental comparison, which matched Morgan's records.

A full military service will be held on Saturday 27 June for Chief Master Sergeant Morgan. Morgan enlisted in the Navy in June of 1945 when he was 17 years old and served until June of 1949. Morgan served in the Army from 1949 to 1955. While in the Army, he served in Germany and France. In 1955 Morgan reenlisted in the Air Force. While in the Air Force, Edwin was stationed in Bermuda, Tinker AFB in Oklahoma City, Okla. and Joint Base in Charleston, S.C., before leaving for Tan Son Nhut AB in the Republic of Vietnam at the end of January 1966. Morgan remained at Tan Son Nhut until he was reported as MIA on March 13, 1966. Morgan was awarded the Purple Heart, the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal posthumously.

Welcome Home Chief Master Sergeant Morgan



AVEL VIETNAM



July 2015 Newsletter
