



THE MOBILE VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL
AV WALL

DID YOU KNOW?

1. Vietnam Era: 1 Nov 1955 – 15 May 1975 (by Congress in 1999)
2. As of 2018 – 374 Names added since 1982
3. Total number of names engraved on The Wall, 58,390
4. Number of casualties on The Wall, 58,276
5. At least one US Service member died in Vietnam every day from December 31, 1965 to December 9, 1970. A total of 1,804 days and 52,448 lives lost!
6. There are 8 Females on the Wall all Nurses (7,484 Military women served in Vietnam, 6,250 were nurses.)
 - a. Eleanor Grace Alexander, USA (27) – died in aircraft crash, November 30, 1970
 - b. Pamela Dorothy Donovan, USA (26) – died of Pneumonia, July 8, 1968
 - c. Carol Ann Elizabeth Drazba, USA (22) – died in helicopter crash, February 18, 1966
 - d. Annie Ruth Graham, USA (52) – died of Stroke, August 14, 1968
 - e. Elizabeth Ann Jones, USA (22) – died in helicopter crash, February 18, 1966
 - f. Mary Therese Klinker, USAF (27) – died in aircraft crash (Operation Baby Lift), April 4, 1975
 - g. Sharon Ann Lane, USA (25) – KIA rocket attack, June 8, 1969
 - h. Hedwig Diane Orłowski, USA (23) – died in aircraft crash, November 30, 1970
7. There are 36 sets of Brothers on the Wall and 1 set of Step-Brothers
 - a. Brothers John Lawrence III and David Lenox Banks were both killed in Vietnam. John on March 28, 1966 and David on April 21, 1969
 - b. Brothers Stephen Clark and Stanley Howard Barrett were both killed in Vietnam. Stephen on January 25, 1968 and Stanley on October 3, 1970
 - c. Brothers David Lynn and Norman Francis Evans were both killed in Vietnam. David on October 24, 1968 and Norman on November 24, 1970
 - d. Brothers Marlin Chris and Norman Lee Eversgerd were both killed in Vietnam. Marlin on March 19, 1967 and Norman on August 18, 1968
 - e. Brothers Michael James and William Joseph Francis were both killed in Vietnam. Michael on September 30, 1967 and William on March 09, 1970
 - f. Brothers Robert Ernest and Steven John Gaftunik were both killed in Vietnam. Robert on August 25, 1969 and Steven on March 27, 1968
 - g. Brothers Marvin and Darwin Gordon were both killed in Vietnam. Marvin on September 17, 1967 and Darwin on March 24, 1968
 - h. Brothers David Curtis and John Egbert Greeson were both killed in Vietnam. David on Nov 7, 1969 and John on July 22, 1968

- i. Brothers Kirby Lynn and Lanny Mayes Hamby were both killed in Vietnam. Kirby on June 8, 1968 and Lanny on October 14, 1969
- j. Brothers Lane Kornegay and Joseph Nelson Hargrove were both killed in Vietnam. Lane on April 21, 1968 and Joseph on May 15, 1975
- k. Brothers Roger Parry and Stanley Moore Harrell were both killed in Vietnam. Stanley on November 1, 1968 and Roger on July 29, 1969
- l. Brothers Bennett James and Dennis Haldane Herrick were both killed in Vietnam. Bennett on March 25, 1968 and Dennis on August 02, 1970
- m. Brothers Budd Edward and Charles Alan Hood were both killed in Vietnam. Budd on February 28, 1967 and Charles on August 12, 1969
- n. Brothers John Ace and Dana Bruce Jensen were both killed in Vietnam. John on August 27, 1967 and Dana on April 17, 1969
- o. Brothers Ronald Edward and Edward Joseph Keglovits were both killed in Vietnam. Ronald on Aug 26, 1967 and Edward on Mar 30, 1967
- p. Brothers Ronald and Thomas Kustaborder were both killed in Vietnam. Ronald on Feb 25, 1968 and Thomas on Feb 14, 1969
- q. Brothers Richard Leon and Larry Paul Land were both killed in Vietnam. Richard on May 18, 1967 and Larry on March 28, 1971
- r. Brothers Steven Franklin and Randy Lee Mathias were both killed in Vietnam. Steven on July 2, 1967 and Randy on June 18, 1968
- s. Brothers Leonard Lloyd Jr and Byron Dean McQuinn were both killed in Vietnam. Leonard on Sept 5, 1966 and Byron on Feb 24, 1969
- t. Brothers Benjamin Ruben and Francisco Andrew Montano were both killed in Vietnam. Francisco on April 08, 1967 and Benjamin on May 15, 1969
- u. Brothers David Elmer and Otis Cleveland Morgan were both killed in Vietnam. David on January 20, 1969 and Otis on January 28, 1970
- v. Brothers David Whittier and Merwin Lamphrey Morrill were both killed in Vietnam. David on Mar 18, 1967 and Merwin on Aug 21, 1967
- w. Brothers Robert Eugene and Harold Earl Musselman were both killed in Vietnam. Robert on October 25, 1967 and Harold on March 3, 1969
- x. Brothers Samuel Ray and William Dale Nixon were both killed in Vietnam. Samuel on March 21, 1968 and William on May 8, 1968
- y. Brothers James Herbert and John Wayne Rowden were both killed in Vietnam. James on March 05, 1966 and John on February 10, 1968
- z. Brothers John Gwin and Harold Junior Ritch were both killed in Vietnam. John on Nov 10, 1968 and Harold on Nov 12, 1971
- aa. Brothers Rudy Mantiad and Stanley Incillo Sagon were both killed in Vietnam. Rudy on December 10, 1965 and Stanley on May 20, 1966
- bb. Brothers James Ronald and Kenneth John Stutes were both killed in Vietnam. James on June 6, 1970 and Kenneth on July 5, 1967
- cc. Brothers Charles Louis and Philip Leonard Tank were both killed in Vietnam. Charles on April 19, 1969 Philip on September 12, 1968.
- dd. Brothers Edmund Burke and Michael Warren Travis were both killed in Vietnam. Edmund on June 27, 1967 and Michael on June 7, 1968
- ee. Brothers Wayne and Fred Traylor were both killed in Vietnam. Wayne on May 11, 1966 and Fred on June 12, 1969

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- ff. Brothers Gabriel and Paul Trujillo were both killed in Vietnam. Gabriel on February 23, 1971 and Paul on November 04, 1971
 - gg. Brothers Donald Eugene and Cordis Ray White were both killed in Vietnam. Donald on March 5, 1967 and Cordis on September 18, 1969
 - hh. Brothers Clyde William and Edward William Withee were both killed in Vietnam. Clyde on February 5, 1966 and Edward on October 6, 1970
 - ii. Brothers George Nathan and James Alfred Wright were both killed in Vietnam. George on May 21, 1967 and James on May 31, 1969
 - jj. Brothers Robert Paul and Phillip Edgar Wyatt were both killed in Vietnam. Robert on July 10, 1967 and Phillip on May 28, 1968
8. One set of Step-Brothers on the Wall
 - a. Richard Earl Sipes and Raymond Omer Kincannon were step brothers and raised together in Chula Vista, CA. They were both killed in Vietnam. Richard on Dec 29, 1966 and Raymond on April 1, 1968
 9. There are 3 Fathers/Sons on the Wall
 - a. Father – Richard B Fitzgibbon Jr (36) killed June 8, 1956 (First to die in Vietnam); Son – Richard B. Fitzgibbon III (21) KIA September 7, 1965
 - b. Father – Leo Hester Sr (43) killed March 10, 1967; Son – Leo Hester Jr (20) KIA November 2, 1969
 - c. Father – Fred C Jenkins (49) drowned April 2, 1968; Son – Bert M Jenkins (29) KIA April 28, 1969
 10. There are 16 Chaplains on the Wall, 7 Catholic (2 Medal of Honor Recipients), 2 Jewish, 7 Protestant
 11. There are 10 Nurses on the Wall; 8 Female, 2 Male
 12. There are 1345 Army Medics on the Wall
 13. There are 691 Navy Corpsmen on the Wall
 14. There are 8 Coast Guard on the Wall
 15. There are 21 different Countries represented on the Wall
 - a. American Samoa
 - b. Australia
 - c. Bolivia
 - d. Canada
 - e. Costa Rica
 - f. France
 - g. Germany
 - h. Great Britain
 - i. Guam
 - j. Ireland
 - k. Italy
 - l. Japan
 - m. Mexico
 - n. New Zealand

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- o. Panama
 - p. Panama Canal Zone
 - q. Philippines
 - r. Puerto Rico
 - s. Republic of Palau
 - t. Switzerland
 - u. US Virgin Islands
16. There are 57 Canadians on the Wall
 17. Earliest to Die – Richard B Fitzgibbon Jr (52E, 021), 8-Jun-56
 18. First Name on Panel 01E – Dale Richard Buis (01E, 001), 8-Jul-59
 19. There are 13 Flag Officers on the Wall
 - a. BGen (O-7) – 6
 - b. MGen (O-8) – 6
 - c. RAdm (O-7/8) – 1
 20. Highest Casualty Day – 31-Jan-68: **246**
 21. Highest Casualty Month – May-68: **2,416**
 22. Highest Casualty Year – 1968: **16,916**
 23. Approximately 997 were killed on their 1st day in Vietnam (unconfirmed)
 24. Shortest Tour – Leslie Gene King (02E, 047), 01-Aug-65, 4 Hrs (unconfirmed)
 25. Approximately 1,443 were killed on their day of departure from Vietnam (unconfirmed)
 26. There are 76 Names on the Wall with ties to the Antelope Valley.
 27. Last Name on Panel W01 – Richard Vandegeer (W01, 132), 15-May-75 (Mayaguez)
 28. Last to Die, Air – William C Nystul (W01, 124) and Michael J Shea (W01, 124), 29-Apr-75 (Helicopter, So. China Sea)
 29. Last to Die, Inco – Darwin L Judge (W01, 124) and Charles Mc Mahon Jr (W01, 124), 29-Apr-75 (Rocket, Ton Sun Not)
 30. Last to Die, War - Gary L Hall (W01, 130), Joseph N Hargrove (W01, 130) and Danny G Marshall (W01, 131), 15-May-75 (Mayaguez)
 31. Last to Die, Woman– Mary T Klinker (W01, 122), 4-Apr-75 (1st Operation Baby-lift flight)
 32. Last Combat Soldier to leave Vietnam on 29-Mar-73, BEILKE, MAX J; Alexandria, MN USA MSgt - Max, 69, Laurel, Maryland, was among the first to be declared missing after the attack on the Pentagon on 11-Sep-01.
 33. MoH – 159 on Wall (Average Age of MoH on Wall: 24), Total for Vietnam 262
 - a. Army – 174
 - b. Marine – 58
 - c. Navy – 16
 - d. Air Force – 14

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34. One MoH Recipient, Charles James "Charlie" Liteky, formerly known as Angelo Liteky renounced his Medal in 1986. He was a Catholic Chaplain, but later renounced his priesthood and became a social activist.
35. Estimated - 32 men were mistakenly listed on The Wall at dedication that were still alive. These names are not listed in the directories, but are in the total count.
36. Native Americans – 227
37. Most interesting Native American Name: Frank W JEALOUS-OF-HIM: Panel W22, Line 2
38. Oldest on Memorial – Frank Luther Huddleston (16E, 109), 12-Aug-02, 68 yrs old (added in 2003)
39. Oldest to Die (Inco) – Kenna Clyde Taylor (W07, 082), 21-Sep-70, 62 yrs old
40. Youngest to Die (Inco) – Dan Bullock (W23, 096), 7-Jun-69, 15.5 years old, Born: 21-Dec-53
41. 13 Soldiers on the Wall were 17 years old.
42. 3,176 Soldiers on the Wall were 18 years old.
43. 8,341 Soldiers on the Wall were 19 years old.
44. 40,361 Soldiers on the Wall were under 22 years old.
45. 76% of those who served in Vietnam were from Lower Middle/Working Class background
46. 75% of those who served in Vietnam had family incomes above the Poverty Line
47. 79% of those who served in Vietnam had graduated high school or received higher education (63% for Korean Vets, 45% for WWII)
48. At least one Soldier was killed as the result of an attack by an Indochinese tiger - Francis Baldino (W39, 063), 14-Nov-68, At about 2145 hours PFC Baldino was acting as his patrol's RTO three paces behind the patrol leader when he was attacked and carried off, his body was recovered the next day.
49. Top Five Most Common Names
 - a. Smith – 662
 - b. Johnson – 525
 - c. Williams – 402
 - d. Brown – 381
 - e. Jones – 346
50. Unknown Soldier – Michael Joseph Blassie (W01, 023), 11-May-72, Interred as Unknown in 1984, reburied 11-Jul-98 in St. Louis, MO
51. There are no remains in the Vietnam Tomb for the Unknown Soldier
52. 234 KIA Battle of the Ia Drang Valley: 14/18-Nov-65; Panel 03E, Line 48-100
53. 135 Died USS Forrestal Fire: 29-Jul-67; Panel 34E, Line 13-47
54. 44 Died USS Oriskany Fire: 26-Oct-66; Panel 11E, Line 106-117
55. 41 KIA (3 MIA) SS Mayaguez Rescue: 13/15-May-75; Panel W01, Line 124-132

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56. 23 KIA USS Westchester County 2 limpet mines attached to hull: 1-Nov-68; Panel W39, Line 1-5 & Panel W40, Line 71-77
57. 20 Died USS Newport News Gun Turret #2 Explosion: 1-Oct-72; Panel W01, Line 76-80
58. 5 KIA US Embassy Attack, Tet 1968: 31-Jan-68; Panel 36E, Line 5,24,33,39
59. Some Interesting Names on the Wall:
- a. SISTO *BOJORQUEZ BOJORQUEZ* Panel 34E, Line 5
 - b. *WALERIJA CHULCHATSCHINOW* Panel W40, Line 18
 - c. RAFAEL *CRUZ-CRUZ* Panel W8, Line 118
 - d. *CURTIS CRAIG COLYEAR* Panel W32, Line 11
 - e. *GREEN CONLEY* Panel 6E, Line 109
 - f. *HONORIO MORAN FIDEL Jr* Panel 24E, Line 94
 - g. JACKIE *FRANKENSTEIN* Panel W59, Line 2
 - h. ARNOLD *GARZA GARZA* Panel W12, Line 48
 - i. *GARY GERALD GRAY* Panel W19, Line 119
 - j. *WIM GOEREE* Panel W13, Line 96
 - k. *LASZLO HOLOVITS* Panel 27E, Line 3
 - l. *HOOD HAL HUNT* Panel 43E, Line 23
 - m. *ANDREW JACKSON* Panel 43E, Line 23
 - n. *LITTLE JAY JACKSON* Panel 43E, Line 45
 - o. RANDOLPH *THOMAS JEFFERSON* Panel W52, Line 44
 - p. *JIMMIE JOE JETT* Panel 34E, Line 63
 - q. *JIMMIE JACK JONES Jr.* Panel W13, Line 92
 - r. *FELIX F F LEYVA-PARRA-FRIAS* Panel 17E, Line 125
 - s. *RONALD I Mc DONALD* Panel W11, Line 3
 - t. *STEVEN MIKE* Panel W05, Line 29
 - u. *CAPT. FRANCIS B MIDNIGHT* Panel 25E, Line 34
 - v. *ELEFThERIOS PANTEL PAPPAS* Panel 12E, Line 2
 - w. *GEORGE PATTON* Panel 22E, Line 47
 - x. *MAJ. JAMES CARL PAYNE* Panel 36E, Line 81
 - y. ARTHUR *JOHN RAMBO* Panel W16, Line 126
 - z. *ROY R ROGERS* Panel 8E, Line 116
 - aa. *ROY J ROGERS* Panel W13, Line 55
 - bb. *RAMON RODRIGUEZ RUIZ* Panel 57E, Line 31
 - cc. *SGT. GARY L SARGENT* Panel 10E, Line 2
 - dd. *SGT. KENNETH E SARGENT* Panel 3E, Line 104
 - ee. *WISELEE SMITH* Panel 27E, Line 18
 - ff. *SIM SMEDDLEY STEVERSON* Panel 31E, Line 89
 - gg. *MOLIMAU ASOMALIU TELA* Panel 6E, Line 111
 - hh. *GREEN THOMAS* Panel W10, Line 117
 - ii. *RAINFORD TIFFIN* Panel 9E, Line 54
 - jj. ABRAHAM *TRUJILLO-TRUJILLO* Panel W36, Line 24
 - kk. *JUAN P VALDEZ* Panel 49E, Line 48
 - ll. *GEORGE R WASHINGTON* Panel 35E, Line 36
 - mm. *PENI UELI* Panel 4E, Line 75
60. Longest name: Rodrigo Velazquez-Feliciano Jr, Panel 42E, Line 55

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61. Shortest names: Ben Coy, Panel 22E, Line 24 and Ned Lee, Panel 38E, Line 29
62. Larry E Smith and Larry E Smith are next to each other on Panel 14E, Line 109
63. There are five (5) Smith's in a row on Panel 38E, Line 14
64. Billie J Williams and Billie J Williams are next to each other on Panel W01, Line 94; there is a Billy Joe Williams on Panel W11, Line 119
65. 137 Lines and approximately 700 names on the tallest panels
66. Panel 1E covers period from 8-Jul-59 thru 6-June-65; Panel W01 covers 15-Apr-72 thru 15-May-75
67. Angle of walls: 125 degrees, 12 minutes
68. 8 years covered on 1E. Other 10 years - 139 Panels
69. 1968 alone requires 74 of 140 panels - first 33E and last W35
70. Panel 70E ends with Jesse Alba - alphabetically the first casualty on 25-May-68. Panel W70 begins with John Anderson 25-May-68
71. Chester Melvin Ovnand died 9-Jul-59; his name is the second on the Wall, Panel 1E, Line 001. It was later discovered that his last name was misspelled and wrong middle initial; *Chester N Ovnard*. To correct the error his name was re-engraved on Panel 7E, Line 046. Where it was discovered his middle initial was again wrong: *Chester A Ovnand*! There has been no indication that his name with all the correct information will be re-engraved again.
72. Professional Football Players who died in Vietnam:
 - a. Donald Thomas Steinbrunner - Cleveland Browns/Offensive Tackle, Panel 23E, Line 096
 - b. James Robert Kalsu - Buffalo Bills/Guard, Panel W08, Line 038
73. Ronald Walsh Mc Lean - Jimmy Stewart's stepson, Panel W23, Line 113
74. Wieland Clyde Norris - Chuck Norris' brother, Panel W09, Line 005
75. 3 Servicemen Statue, sculpted by Frederick Hart, local DC artist (deceased). Dedicated Veterans Day 1984. Weapons - M-60, 45, and M-16
76. Vietnam Women's Memorial, Dedicated 11-Nov-93, Sculpture by Glenna Goodacre of Santa Fe, NM. Goodacre also designed US Silver Dollar issued in 2000 with image of Sacajawea - Native American who aided Lewis & Clark. Also statue of Ronald Reagan at Reagan Library in CA.
77. Spare Black Granite Panels are stored at Quantico Marine Corps base in Virginia. They are blank
78. Wall temperature recorded at 1430 hrs on 25-Aug-07: 150 degrees
79. Granite is from Bangalore, India, and was used because of its deep color and consistency. 5 ft. panel weighs approximately 900 pounds
80. The Wall represents a 'cut' or 'gash', in the earth, as 21-year old Maya Lin envisioned the field being peeled back to reveal the open wound that was Vietnam and our loss. Black represents earth, granite a permanent separation of the living and the dead, polished granite reflects the images of the living in the lives of those who died for our freedom. The names

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would tell the story of a 'Journey' and that Vets could come back to their own place in the 'Journey'. The 'first' and the 'last' meet at the apex of the Memorial - Closure. Didn't want The Wall to look like a telephone book. Approximately \$9 million raised for the Memorial. All funds were from private contributions.

81. The grassy area in front of The Wall and on the top of the memorial are supposed to represent 'healing'... as grass would grow right up to The Wall. (Sidewalk added, but at opening ceremonies there was grass between Wall and sidewalk). Maya Lin noted that the pain of loss heals over time (the grass), but never truly goes away (the Wall itself). The panels read like pages in a book - left column justified on the East panels, right column justified on the western panels - artistically like an open book. The names, as they write the history of the war - like a diary - day by day, become the monument itself. The names are alphabetical by last name on days with more than 1 casualty.
82. Maya was a Yale undergraduate majoring in architecture. She received a B+ on the project when submitted at school. 1,421 entries in total were submitted in the 1980-81 contest and the winner selected by a panel of 8 internationally recognized landscape architects (3), sculptors (3), and architects (2). No Vietnam Vets on the panel of judges.
83. Maya was born in Athens, OH. Her parents (both university professors) had fled China - and became professors at Ohio University in Athens, OH.
84. 59 US Civilian women died in Vietnam - 37 of them in plane crash with Mary Klinker. No civilians 'officially' listed on the Wall - but 1 listed by mistake.
85. Goodacre left open to interpretation the meaning of the 3 uniformed women at the Women's Memorial. But some suggest they represent 'Hope', 'Despair' and 'Compassion'. There are 8 trees planted around memorial in honor of the 8 military women who died. Goodacre said that in her mind the soldier does NOT die.
86. 'In Memory Day', scheduled for Father's Day, Sunday, 20-June-2015 - honors those men and women who died as a result of their service in Southeast Asia whose names were not eligible to be added to The Wall. Christmas Tree Ceremony; Sunday; 13-Dec-2015 at 1100 hours - hosted by the Volunteers.
87. 'In Memory' Plaque dedicated 10-Nov-2004. 24 x 36 inches, black granite. Authorized by Congress April 2000.
88. All of the names on The Wall were read aloud - in chronological order - during dedication, on 10th (1992), 20th (2002), 25th (2007), 30th (2012) and 35th (2017) anniversaries.
89. The Wall is 246 feet 9 inches long in both East and West directions. 10 feet, 6 inches tall at apex. There are 148 Panels... 140 numbered, 4 blank at 2 at each end.
90. Name additions, spelling corrections and MIA to 'Declared Dead' status done by James Lee of 'Engrave Write' of Colorado - generally done in May of each year.
91. A diamond is 'declared/presumed dead' - either KIA or death from other causes (approximately 10,800). Nearly 900 men 'declared dead' on The Wall are 'Body Not Recovered'. Some groups consider these men still 'missing'. DOD says 1,598 military 'unaccounted for' in April 2015. The Wall shows 728 'status unknown'.

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92. A good example of a name addition for visitors is Billy Smith on Panel 1E Line 42. He was seriously wounded 8-Nov-63 and died 7-Oct-95. He was added prior to Memorial Day 1999 - and was placed as close to those men he served with in 1963 as possible.
93. 379 names added since 1982 - 110 added in 1986 – most were airmen flying combat missions from Thailand, but President Reagan ruled them eligible. 68 added in 1983 - most were Marines killed in a plane crash in Hong Kong on R & R. The other 198 were mostly men who were left off for various reasons or died after The Wall was dedicated from combat wounds. Alan Brudno (5E, Line 2) - was a suicide here in the States. Brudno had been a POW from 18-Oct-65 thru 28-Mar-73 (7.5 years)
94. Memorabilia left at The Wall is stored in a climate-controlled warehouse in Landover, MD, managed by Park Service. Flowers and perishable food are not kept. Over 400,000 items are cataloged. Some items are on display at ‘The Price of Freedom’ in the Smithsonian’s National Museum of American History.
95. www.sdit.org (Sons and Daughters in Touch) - organization for children of men who are listed on The Wall. (Org is not limited to Vietnam)
96. The Flag Base, authorized on 13-Oct-82, contains the emblems of all 5 branches of service including Coast Guard. The Flag Base at WWII Memorial has 6 - including Merchant Marines.
97. 2003 Law requires the POW Flag to fly at all National Military Memorials - including Korea, WWII, and Vietnam and National Military Cemeteries.
98. The names of Maya Lin, Jan Scruggs, 1982 members of the VVMF Board, Advisors and architect Cooper-Lecky are engraved on the top, back side of the Memorial.
99. Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund founded 27-Apr-79 by a group of Vietnam Veterans led by Jan Scruggs.
100. “Carved on these walls is the story of America, of a continuing quest to preserve both Democracy and decency, and to protect a national treasure that we call the American dream.”
-President George Bush
101. SOMETHING to think about - Most of the surviving Parents are now deceased.
102. Beallsville, OH with a population of 475 lost 6 of her sons.
103. West Virginia had the highest casualty rate per capita in the nation. There are 727 West Virginians on the Wall.
104. The Marines of Morenci - They led some of the scrappiest high school football and basketball teams that the little Arizona copper town of Morenci (pop. 5,058) had ever known and cheered. They enjoyed roaring beer busts. In quieter moments, they rode horses along the Coronado Trail, stalked deer in the Apache National Forest. And in the patriotic camaraderie typical of Morenci's mining families, the nine graduates of Morenci High enlisted as a group in the Marine Corps. Their service began on Independence Day, 1966. Only 3 returned home.
105. The Buddies of Midvale - LeRoy Tafoya, Jimmy Martinez, Tom Gonzales were all boyhood friends and lived on three consecutive streets in Midvale, UT on Fifth, Sixth and Seventh Avenues. They lived only a few yards apart. They played ball at the adjacent sandlot ball field. And they all went to Vietnam. In a span of 16 dark days in late 1967, all three would be

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killed. LeRoy was killed on Wednesday, Nov 22, the fourth anniversary of John F. Kennedy's assassination. Jimmy died less than 24 hours later on Thanksgiving Day. Tom was shot dead assaulting the enemy on Dec 7, Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day.

106. Sgt. Robert G. Davison of Muskegon, Michigan joined the Marine Corp at the age of 14. He had four years of service in the Marines when he was shipped to Vietnam at age 18. Robert was KIA on Dec 17, 1966 one day before his 19th birthday. (Contributed by VVA 158)