

Proud To Remember



***SONS AND
DAUGHTERS
IN
TOUCH***

Father's Day Weekend
June 17-20, 1993
Washington, DC

Proud to Remember 1993

PLANNING COMMITTEE

Colleen Shine	Corky Condon
Tony Cordero	Tom Stone
Wanda Ruffin	Albert Williams
Don Byars	Janice Raleigh
Dennis Shine	Wende Ruffin
Pat Harrington	Denise Reed
Marty Hallowell	Dave Smith
Lou James	Shari Gogan
Layna McConkey	Kirk Balcom
Joanne Peltier	

"Flying is the ability to throw yourself at the ground and miss."

—Douglas Adams

Welcome . . .

Sons and Daughters In Touch, Inc. (SDIT) is delighted to welcome all family members, veterans and friends to Proud to Remember 1993. We hope you will enjoy this weekend of sharing and learning, and trust that through interaction and exploration will come renewed growth and understanding. SDIT is a non-profit support organization for the sons and daughters of Americans who died or are missing as a result of the Vietnam War. This Father's Day weekend is the kick-off event for the SDIT Fund which will help establish nationwide local support groups and offset costs for our forthcoming national newsletter.

Proud to Remember 1992 marked our first national gathering, with nearly 400 of the estimated 40,000 children of Vietnam casualties travelling from over 40 states to celebrate a powerful, patriotic Father's Day together. Scheduled events provided an opportunity for many to see their father's name on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial for the first time, to share common experiences, and begin a long-overdue healing process. In response to the groundswell of interest and support, we are pleased to host this second gathering. In the future, we hope to hold national Father's Day gatherings every 3 to 5 years.

While the need for SDIT began with the onset of America's first war, the concept of SDIT began only four years ago, when Tony Cordero, the son of an Air Force navigator killed in 1965 began to seek out another who had lost fathers in Vietnam. His quest led him to the Friends of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, a non-profit organization that sponsors projects and services related to the Memorial. There, he spoke with Wanda Ruffin, Director of the In Touch program which connects family, friends and fellow veterans of those listed on the Memorial. Wanda was eager to put Tony in touch with another whose father was killed in Vietnam - her own daughter, Wende. As Tony and Wende talked, they experienced an instant camaraderie. They formed a bond which they knew would be beneficial to the healing of others.

Now, Sons and Daughters meet regularly in TX, DC, NY, IN, MN, OR, CA, FL, MO, KS, CO and NC. For many, learning about the father they hardly knew has been a powerfully enlightening and life-changing experience. Whether meeting his friends or fellow veterans, finally sharing with a mother, sibling, or grandad, reading attic-stored letters or discovering a trove of keepsakes, sons and daughters are growing beyond their pain. Of the over 58,000 American casualties in Vietnam, an estimated one third were fathers. SDIT wants to reach as many of these now-grown children as possible, so that each can benefit from the strength found in knowing they are not alone.

SDIT could well be the most important legacy of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. We offer sons and daughters, families, and veterans an opportunity to learn from a common history and share experiences with others who understand only too well. Through SDIT, these resilient young people are moving the history of Vietnam into the future and setting an example for all nations to follow. As a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, SDIT is seeking contributions to fulfill our humanitarian goals. Your generous donation to the SDIT Fund will perpetuate this healing and growth.

"...whereas most walls keep people apart, our Wall brings people together..."

—Wanda Ruffin, SDIT Board of Directors

Wife of James T. Ruffin, USN, Killed In Action, February 18, 1966

Weekend Activities

ORIENTATION

The who, what, when, where and why of the weekend. Bring your questions!

SDIT HOSPITALITY SUITE

An opportunity to meet and share with other sons and daughters in an informal setting. Register with the *In Touch* locator program, enjoy some snacks and view ongoing press coverage of the weekend. Bring photos to put on our bulletin board. Please stop by . . . often.

SHARING CIRCLES

An opportunity for sons and daughters, siblings, widows and veterans to share personal experiences, questions and feelings with others who lost a father, brother, husband or comrade in Vietnam. We invite you to sit in; talk as little or much as you'd like. All are welcome to join the Friday and Saturday sons and daughters sharing group and/or participate in sharing circles specifically for siblings or widows on Saturday afternoon.

HISTORICAL SUITE

Vietnam authors, historians and other "experts" will take part in this open, ongoing forum designed to educate and inform sons and daughters as well as veterans. Various displays, a slide presentation on Vietnam—past and present—and a selection of informative Vietnam books (for review and discount sale) will be featured. Authors will be available for questions and book signing throughout the weekend.

VETERAN'S HOSPITALITY SUITE

A chance for sons and daughters and veterans to spend some time together. As Vietnam veteran Lou James recently wrote, "What more sacred duty do we have to our buddies than to honor their memory by warmly receiving their children. . . ." This is your chance to meet your father's peers, ask questions and learn more about the work he may have done in Southeast Asia, depending on service, unit, year and location of tour.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Early Saturday morning, members of the American Legion Post #139 from Northern Virginia are hosting a free Pancake Breakfast for registered SDIT *Proud to Remember* attendees. Sign up for transportation at the Registration Table. Enjoy a hearty breakfast, then return to the Sheraton National Hotel to participate in a Sharing Circle or visit the SDIT or Veteran's Hospitality Suite.

COORDINATORS MEETING

Learn techniques to locate sons and daughters in your area, creative media strategies, fundraising and local meeting ideas. Bring your questions and suggestions!

WREATH DEDICATION

SDIT will place a wreath honoring our fathers at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington Cemetery. Help assemble the wreath in the Hospitality suite on Friday afternoon or Saturday morning. Sign up for bus transportation at the Registration Table. Seats are limited.

TRIPS TO THE WALL

The Memorial is one of the most visited sights in Washington and is often crowded. Late night trips provide an opportunity to experience the Memorial in a more serene environment. As you get to know other "living legacies" of the names engraved on the Wall, it becomes an even more magical and meaningful monument. Sign up sheets are located at the Registration Table. Seats will be available on a first come, first served basis.

REMEMBRANCE DINNER AND DANCE

Get acquainted with other sons and daughters, listen to entertaining speakers and musicians, experience the USMC silent drill team performance and dance till midnight. A no-host cocktail reception will precede the dinner. Dinner tickets will be distributed with registration packets. Please stop by the Registration Table if you need to purchase tickets on site.

ROSE FOR REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY AND PICNIC

Weekend events culminate in a powerful, patriotic ceremony scheduled on Father's Day morning on the knoll overlooking the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Please pick up a red rose (KIA) or yellow rose (MIA) upon arrival at the ceremony. Message cards are provided in your registration packet. Following the ceremony participants will place roses at the Memorial then gather for a picnic on the east knoll. Please be prepared to show your nametag to receive your free picnic lunch. Donations to help offset costs are welcome.

Weekend Activities

Schedule

THURSDAY

2pm-9pm	Registration	Lobby
2pm-9pm	SDIT Hospitality	Suite 416
5pm-6pm	Orientation	Mezzanine B

FRIDAY

9am-9pm	Registration	Lobby
9am-9pm	SDIT Hospitality	Suite 416
2pm-9pm	Sharing Circle	Mezzanine B
5pm-6pm	Orientation	Concourse Room
4pm-9pm	Historical Suite	Mezzanine A
6pm-9pm	Veterans Hospitality	Suite 716

SATURDAY

8am-10:30am	Pancake Breakfast	American Legion Post #139
9am-4pm	Registration	Lobby
10am-5pm	SDIT Hospitality	Suite 416
10am-5pm	Historical Suite	Mezzanine A
10am-11am	Local Coordinators Meeting	Suite 716
12pm-5pm	Veterans Hospitality	Suite 716
11am	Siblings Sharing Circle	East 1
11am	Widows Sharing Circle	Suite 616
1:35 pm	Wreath Dedication	Arlington Cemetery
6pm-6:30am	Cocktail Reception	Ballroom
6:30pm-12am	Remembrance Dinner/Dance	Ballroom

SUNDAY

8am	Continental Breakfast	Suite 416
10am -11:15am	Rose for Remembrance Ceremony	Near Memorial
11:30am	Picnic	Near Memorial
1:30	SDIT Hospitality	Suite 416

War should belong to the tragic past, to history: It should find no place on humanity's agenda for the future.

—Pope John Paul II

*"For years I couldn't talk about him
because who would understand
How it feels when your father dies
in some foreign land."*

*"...So remember, America, sons and daughters are Vets, too.
They fight a different battle than any of you knew..."*

—Excerpts by Wayne A. Jones
son of Chief Warrant Officer Wayne E. Jones, USA
Killed In Action 1967

*"...What were your thoughts, what were your aims?
How did you feel as you went down in flames?
Were you then captured, did you then die?
Have you been brainwashed, do you still cry?..."*

—Excerpts by Shannon C. Shine
son of LTC Anthony C. Shine, USAF
Missing in Action 1972

*"The Memorial presented opportunities I had never had. It wasn't like
home, where he doesn't exist; or at my Grandmother's where he is
ever-present It wasn't like the cemetery, where I am constantly
looking over my shoulder There, I would have nothing to hide
and everything to show."*

—Excerpt by Jennifer DiIorio, daughter of Vietnam casualty,
on her first visit to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial

"Wars are not paid for in wartime, the bill comes later."

—Benjamin Franklin



CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20318-9999

June 1993

A MESSAGE
TO THE SONS AND DAUGHTERS "IN TOUCH"
ON THE SECOND FATHER'S DAY TRIBUTE

As a Vietnam veteran, it is most meaningful for me to extend my sincere greetings to all of you gathered on this Father's Day to remember your loved ones. I wish I could be with you on this knoll overlooking the Vietnam Veterans Memorial during the Rose for Remembrance Ceremony.

Your fathers would be so proud of you--their "living legacies." You are their future, and today you are paying them a tremendous tribute of love--just by being here. You are also sharing a common bond with other sons, daughters, loved ones and friends to honor the memory of the brave Americans who died or are still unaccounted for while serving our Nation in Vietnam.

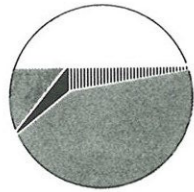
As you place a rose next to the Wall and run your fingers softly over the engraving, you can feel the spirit of your fathers. Although you will experience an outpouring of emotions today, the most powerful ones will be a sense of healing. And in the peace that follows, you must never forget.

You should be extremely proud of your loved ones--the heroes of Vietnam. This Wall shows that they earned America's love and respect, and our devotion to their memory. We remember and honor all who gave their lives for our beloved Nation.

COLIN L. POWELL
Chairman
of the
Joint Chiefs of Staff

"Each time a man stands up for an ideal, or acts to improve the lot of others, or strikes out against injustice, he sends forth a tiny ripple of hope . . . and crossing each other from a million different centers of energy and daring, those ripples build a current that can sweep down the mightiest walls of oppression and resistance."

—Robert Kennedy



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***FVVM wishes
Sons & Daughters
In Touch
much success!***



OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

WASHINGTON

June 1993

Dear Sons and Daughters in Touch:

I am honored to take part, at least by letter, in this Father's Day ceremony. It would be presumptuous of me to try to find words that could erase the sadness you will -- and should -- feel on this day of honor and remembrance. Nevertheless, I would like to pay tribute both to your fathers and to you.

Your fathers gave their lives to make sure that their children grew up in a better and safer world. It was a sacrifice this nation must always honor and never forget. Among you are some who still await word on the fate of a loved one. I ask each of you to find strength in knowing that President Clinton and I are resolutely committed to achieving the fullest possible accounting for those brave servicemen and civilians. These men have not been forgotten by you -- or America.

Not forgotten either, has been your sacrifice. It has become commonplace to say that in war, fathers bury their children. The fact is that in Vietnam, thousands of American children lost their fathers. Some lost fathers they never met or were too young to remember.

In the face of such tragedy you have demonstrated resilience and courage. You have managed to triumph over your anguish, allowed knowledge and understanding to produce healing, and created meaningful lives out of tragedy. What could make a parent more proud? Your fathers never had the chance to enjoy the full measure of fatherhood. But if they could be here today, they would be so gratified, both by the way you demonstrate your continuing love and how, by your unconquerable spirit, you honor their memory.

Sincerely,

Al Gore

REMEMBRANCE DINNER

6:30 pm Saturday, June 19, 1993

Sheraton National Hotel

Welcome Tony Cordero, Co-founder, Sons and Daughters In Touch
son of Maj. William E. Cordero, USAF

Invocation Mike McCoy
son of Sgt. John L. McCoy, USA

Remarks Lt. Col. Janis Nark, US Army Reserve, Vietnam Veteran
Vietnam Women's Memorial Project

*"Still Waiting
at the Wall"* Musical selection performed by Mary Gallivan, introduction by Marty
Hallowell, Treasurer, SDIT Board of Directors

Remarks Patricia Fall
daughter of Bernard Fall, journalist

Remarks Col. Fred Cherry, USAF (ret.) and Cdr. Porter Halyburton, USN (ret),
returned Vietnam Prisoners Of War

Missing Men Table Colleen Shine
daughter of Lt. Col. Anthony C. Shine, USAF, *Missing In Action*

Toast to Mothers Marcia Penn
daughter of Lt. Col. Raymond B. Penn, USA and
Thomas Culp
son of Capt. Thomas Culp, USA

"This Past Year" Poem written and presented by Wayne Jones
son of CWO Wayne E. Jones, USA

"Dad" Poem written and presented by Karen Horn
daughter of Lcdr. Robert E. Condon, USN

Remarks Corky Condon, Executive Director, Sons and Daughters In Touch
daughter of Lcdr. Robert E. Condon, USN

Entertainment Members of the USMC Silent Drill Team, introduction by Elaine Roach,
daughter of Lt. James S. Roach, Jr., USN

ROSE FOR REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY

10:00 am Sunday, June 20, 1993

East Knoll, Vietnam Veterans Memorial

Presentation of Colors Joint Services Color Guard

"Star Spangled Banner" First U.S. Army Band

Master of Ceremonies Tony Cordero, Co-Founder, Sons and Daughters In Touch
son of a Vietnam casualty

Invocation Father John Obenchain, St. Christopher's Church, Oxford, PA

Remarks Wanda Ruffin, Co-Founder, Sons and Daughters In Touch
wife of a Vietnam casualty

Remarks Wayne Smith, Vietnam Veteran, Friends of the Vietnam Veterans
Memorial Board of Directors

Remarks Congressman Sam Johnson (R-Texas), Vietnam Veteran
returned Prisoner Of War

"United by the Wall" Musical selection co-written and performed by Jonathan Edwards

Remarks Jan C. Scruggs, Vietnam Veteran
President, Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund

Remarks Lt. General Barry R. McCaffrey, Vietnam Veteran
Director, Strategic Plans and Policy, J-5, Joint Staff

Pledge of Peace No Greater Love's international Pledge recited by Ryan Gogan,
grandson of Vietnam casualty and Michael Minh Ly

Remarks Adrian Cronauer, Vietnam Veteran, subject of movie "Good Morning
Vietnam"

Remarks General Wayne A. Downing, Vietnam Veteran, Commander in Chief,
United States Special Operations Command
son of World War II casualty

"Amazing Grace" Fire Fighters Emerald Society Pipe Band

Taps Jim Ogilvie, Vietnam Veteran, Scottish American Military Society

*Following the ceremony, sons and daughters will place roses bearing their Father's Day messages
at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, then gather on the knoll for a picnic. All are invited to attend.*

Ceremony sign language interpretation provided by Mark Langer, from CAPCOM.

PARTICIPATING AUTHORITIES

Rod Kane . . .

born in Utica, NY, is the author of "Veteran's Day." He served with the 1st Cavalry Division. He presently lives near Washington, D.C., where he has recently returned to writing after an involved respiratory illness and a lung transplant.

Joseph L. Galloway . . .

a native Texan, coauthored the best selling "We Were Soldiers Once . . . And Young" with General (ret) Hal Moore. At nineteen he was a U.P.I. bureau chief. Joe was on the ground with the 1st Cavalry Division at LZ Xray during the Ia Drang campaign in 1965.

General Wayne A. Downing, USA . . .

is Commander in Chief of the United States Special Operations Command. In Vietnam he served in the 173rd Airborne Brigade and the 25th Infantry Division. General Downing's father was killed in WWII.

Colonel Fred Caristo USA (ret) . . .

served in Vietnam from 1964 to 1973, primarily with Special Operations units. He participated in more than 200 POW/MIA combat recovery efforts in Southeast Asia.

Lieutenant General Barry R. McCaffrey . . .

is Director, Strategic Plans and Policy, J-5, Joint Staff. In 1966, he served with the Vietnamese Airborne while assigned to United States Military Assistance. In 1968-1969 he served with the 2/7 of the 1st Cavalry Division.

Congressman Sam Johnson . . .

has served the 3rd District, Texas, since 1991. In 1966 he was shot down over North Vietnam, while serving as a fighter pilot, and spent nearly seven years as a prisoner of war. His auto biography "Captive Warriors" details his POW experience.

Bob and Patience Mason . . .

are husband and wife authors presently living in Florida. Bob served with the 1st Cavalry Division in Vietnam as a helicopter pilot. He wrote the best-selling "Chickenhawk" about those experiences. "Chickenhawk, back from the War," Bob's latest book, has recently been released. Patience's book "Healing from the War" is a great aid in understanding healing from the war.

Jan Scruggs . . .

co-author of "To Heal a Nation," he served with the 199th Light Infantry Brigade in Vietnam. While doing graduate research, Jan conceived a national memorial inscribed with the names of Americans lost in Vietnam. More than eight million dollars in private donations were raised and the "Wall" was built, and dedicated in November 1982. Jan, now an attorney, is currently a lecturer to business audiences.

Lynda Van Devanter Buckley . . .

served as an Army nurse in Vietnam from 1969 to 1970. She is the author of "Home Before Morning," about those experiences and her return to America. Lynda now lives in suburban Virginia.

Lt. Col. Janis Nark, USA . . .

Vietnam veteran, Army nurse. Active US Army Reserve. Currently, Janis lectures across the nation on the subject of women in business.

Adrian Croenauer . . .

was an AFVN disc jockey in Vietnam. Robin Williams portrayed him in the motion picture "Good Morning Vietnam."

Barbara Sonneborne . . .

Vietnam widow and director of "Regret to Inform," a documentary film about Vietnam widows and their relationship to war.

Peggy Borsay . . .

Vietnam widow and co-director of the Vietnam Widows Research Project, a research program and support network for Vietnam widows.

Jackie Beattey . . .

mental health nurse whose brother served two Vietnam tours. Jackie is co-director of the Vietnam Widows Research Project.

Wanda Ruffin . . .

Vietnam widow, and a member of the National League of POW/MIA Families. Wanda was instrumental in establishing the FVVM's *In Touch* locator program. A registered nurse and a frequent lecturer in the area of hospice development and grief counseling. Co-founder, Sons and Daughters In Touch, Inc.

Reprint Book Shop is honored to welcome the Sons and Daughters to Washington, D.C. Please visit us at The Historical Suite at the Sheraton National Hotel on Friday, June 18 between 3 p.m. and closing, and on Saturday, June 19 between 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Joseph Galloway (*We Were Soldiers Once . . . And Young*), Patience Mason (*Recovering from the War*), Robert Mason (*Chickenhawk* and *Chickenhawk: Back in the World*) will be among the authors on hand Friday and Saturday to sign copies of their books.



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As long as one survived, we all
made it home."

-- Michael Norman,
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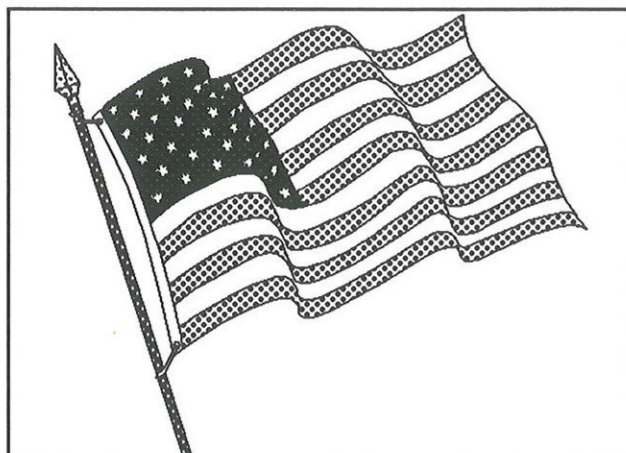
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Michael Gaffney
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American Legion Post 139
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Steve Dawson
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Bill Chester
Joe Galloway
David Babski
Ted Field
Jerry Suarez
Art "Mouse" Moore
Marilyn Franklin
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National Park Service
Mount Vernon Travel
Gino Gioletti
Clarke Green
Suzanne Sigona
Ottenberg Bakeries

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