

# Mid-Michigan Honor Flight



**Mission XIX – June 11-12, 2024**





## A PRAYER FOR VETERANS

Proud of our nation,  
they answered her call,  
defending the freedom  
and safety of all.

On land or on sea,  
or in jets high above,  
they went out of duty  
and honor and love.

But however they served, Lord,  
wherever they went,  
please bless them  
and help them  
to know what it meant.

And help us to thank them  
on their Honor Flight day,  
for we owe them far more  
than we ever could say.

*God's blessings to you!*

Trinity Lutheran Church & School  
Reed City, MI



Thank you for accompanying us on Mission #19 and making it a wonderful experience! Please accept this book as a token of our appreciation. It was our privilege to share this day and many experiences with you. The photos that you submitted with your application appear in this book and your Veteran experiences have been placed into it to capture your place in our history.

*"It is never too late to thank a Veteran"*

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Allen Sutherby, Ron Ray, Jennifer Compau

Photographers: James Swoboda, Patricia Moll

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in Traverse City, MI. Thank you Bill and Amy!



*Official Hub of the  
Honor Flight® Network*

# Acknowledgments

First and foremost, we remember, thank, and praise every Veteran that has ever served, sacrificed, and defended our Nation and our Freedoms! The Board of Directors of Mid-Michigan Honor Flight would like to take a moment and offer a Special "Thank You" to the volunteers, donors, and businesses that made Mission #19 a success. Our Hero Honorees, and their Guardians were treated to "The Trip of a Lifetime". This first-class event was made possible by the dedication and hard work of the Mid-Michigan Honor Flight Board of Directors and our Flight Support Staff. To our many Volunteers, MMHF gratefully acknowledges your time, dedication, and hard work, we could never complete a Mission without you.

Our Special thanks to: Bishop Airport employees, Meijer Family Foundation, Tee See Tees, Coins with Pride, B & B Printing, Project Hero Hugs, Leprino's, Ice Mountain, and all of our other Donors.

This special flight featured 150 of Michigan's Female Veterans. This flight was unique because all of the Honoree's, and all of the Guardians are Veterans. This is the first time that an Honor Flight has required that all participants have made the commitment to serve our great nation. Michigan is home to over 46,000 Female Veterans and we need to make sure that we honor their service and sacrifice to our Country, our State, and our Freedoms. To the participants of Mission #19, please remember "You are Veterans", not just someone who served in the Military.

***Please proudly claim and own the title of Veteran!***

## **Media Credits:**

We wish to thank the following media outlets for their coverage and support of Mission #19:

ABC 12, Flint

Reporter Christine Winter and Photojournalist Eric Fletcher





## The Tootsie Roll Tale

**F**or too many Americans, November 11<sup>th</sup> signals “that 3-day weekend before Thanksgiving.” Others know it’s Veterans Day and feel it deeply. But for many people, Veterans Day is a vague and fuzzy concept, lacking a compelling memory; a story, a visual aid; something tactile to focus on. Those are the ones you want to hand a piece of candy to. A couple of weeks before Veterans Day buy a bag of those tiny Tootsie Rolls, the ones called *Midgees*. Put some in your pocket and begin handing them out, along with this story:

After World War II, the Korean peninsula was divided into the communist North and the democratic South. While South Korea was recovering and rebuilding, North Korea was arming to the teeth, receiving countless tons of

weapons, munitions and war supplies — and encouragement to use them — from Mao’s China and Stalin’s Soviet Union. In June of 1950, North Korea invaded the lightly-defended South with infantry, tanks and artillery, nearly rolling up the entire country. South Korea had no tanks, anti-tank weapons or artillery. Then a coalition of UN member nations, led by the US, intervened.

After weeks of bitter fighting, North Korean forces were pushed ‘way back over the border at the 38<sup>th</sup> Parallel. For a brief and shining moment, it

appeared the invasion had been defeated — and the North’s Russian and Chinese sponsors had taken a slap in the face. Mao’s response shouldn’t have come as a surprise, but it did. He sent a million-man army against the allies.

## A VETERANS DAY STORY



## THE FROZEN CHOSIN

**B**y November 26, 10,000 men of the First Marine Division, along with elements of two Army regimental combat teams, a detachment of British Royal Marine commandos and some South Korean policemen were completely surrounded by over ten divisions of Chinese troops in rugged mountains near the Chosin Reservoir. Chairman Mao himself had ordered the Marines annihilated, and Chinese General Song Shi-Lun gave it his best shot, throwing human waves of his 120,000 soldiers against the heavily outnumbered allied forces. A massive cold front blew in from Siberia, and with it, the coldest winter in recorded Korean history. For the encircled allies at the Chosin Reservoir, daytime temperatures averaged five degrees below zero, while nights plunged to minus 35 and lower.

Jeep batteries froze and split. C-rations ran dangerously low and the cans were frozen solid. Fuel could not be spared to thaw them. If truck engines stopped, their fuel lines froze. Automatic weapons wouldn’t cycle. Morphine syrettes had to be thawed in a medical corpsman’s mouth before they could be injected. Precious bottles of blood plasma were frozen and useless. Resupply could only come by air, and that was spotty and erratic because of the foul weather.

High Command virtually wrote them off, believing their situation was hope-

less. Washington braced for imminent news of slaughter and defeat. Retreat was hardly an option; not through that wall of Chinese troops. If the Marines defended, they would be wiped out. So they formed a 12-mile long column — and attacked.

There were 78 miles of narrow, crumbling, steeply-angled road — and 100,000 Chinese soldiers — between the Marines and the sea at Hungnam. Both sides fought savagely for every inch of it. The march out became one monstrous, moving battle.

The Chinese used the ravines between ridges, protected from rifle fire, to marshal their forces between attacks. The Marines’ 60-millimeter mortars,

capable of delivering high, arcing fire over the ridgelines, breaking up those human waves, became perhaps the most valuable weapon the Marines had. But their supply of mortar rounds was quickly depleted. Emergency requests for resupply were sent by radio, using code words for specific items. The code for 60mm mortar ammo was “Tootsie Rolls” — but the radio operator receiving that urgent request didn’t have the Marines’ code sheets. All he knew was that the request came from command authority, it was extremely urgent — and there were tons of Tootsie Rolls at supply bases in Japan.

Tootsie Rolls had been issued with other rations to US troops since World War I, earning preferred status because they held up so well to heat, cold and rough handling compared to other candies.



## Tootsies From The Sky

**T**earing through the clouds and fog, parachutes bearing pallet-loads of Tootsie Rolls descended on the Marines. After initial shocked reactions, the freezing, starving troops rejoiced. Frozen Tootsie Rolls were thawed in armpits, popped in mouths, and their sugar provided instant energy. For many, Tootsie Rolls were their only nourishment for days. The troops also learned they could use warmed Tootsie Rolls to plug bullet holes in fuel drums, gas tanks, cans and radiators, where they would freeze solid again, sealing the leaks.

Over two weeks of unspeakable misery, movement and murderous fighting, the 15,000-man column suffered 3,000 killed in action, 6,000 wounded and thousands of severe frostbite cases. But they reached the sea, demolishing several Chinese divisions in the process. Hundreds credited their very survival to Tootsie Rolls. Surviving Marines called themselves “The Chosin Few,” and among themselves, another name: *The Tootsie Roll Marines*. Join me in sharing their story — and some Tootsie Rolls. Connor OUT





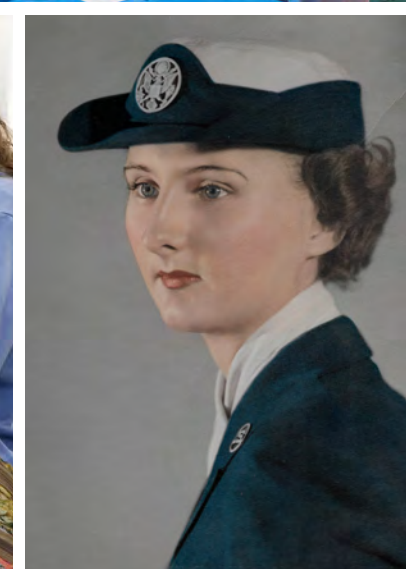


*To our veterans ...  
... we thank you for your service.*





Air Force. Vietnam.  
 December 7, 1972  
 – August 26, 1977  
 USAF AD, February  
 1989 – June 6, 2014  
 USAFR, Retired  
 as an E-8. 29150-  
 USAF, 2T271/2T191-  
 USAFR. A&M,  
 Meritorious  
 Service Medal/1  
 device, Air Force  
 Commendation  
 Medal, Air Force  
 Achievement  
 Medal/2 devices,  
 Air Force  
 Outstanding Unit  
 Awards/1 device.







Army. 1980 – 1988. US Army Reserve 1988 – 2008. Retired.  
West Germany, Michigan, Peru, Iraq. ARCOM, AAM, GCM,  
GWOTEM, ICM, EFMB. D-2 E.







USAF. Vietnam. May 5, 1966 – September 18, 1966. A2C. 46 Communication Squadron/ Telephone Operator (base to base) SACTELNET, stationed in Barksdale AFB, LA. Cuban Missile Crisis, Assassination of President John F. Kennedy, Civil Rights Bill passed. Good Conduct Ribbon.





Air Force. Vietnam. May 24, 1968 – November 2, 1971. General Accounting Specialist. E4, Sgt. Was stationed at McChord AFB, Tacoma, Washington. We were a port to and from Vietnam. I saw the men every day, I could see in their eyes and faces, the damage to their souls. And the buses that carried the wounded to Madigan Hospital on Ft Lewis. I don't recall my medals.





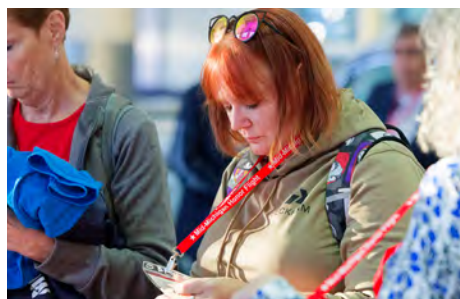
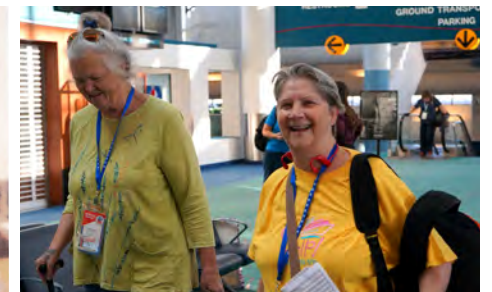


Army. Vietnam. April 22, 1964 – November 9, 1965. E 4. Aerial Interpretation Specialist/Personnel. Being in the south in 1964. Going to the Pentagon. Having a top-secret interim security clearance. Meeting women from and over the US. All awards were going to in-country military.





Air Force. 1982 – 2003.  
Retired – Michigan, Iceland,  
Japan, Australia, England. E6.







Army. Vietnam. January 1969 – April 1972. Key punch Opr/Data Analyst. Sp5. Army Commendation Medal, in DC during Vietnam protest, took lots of hops out of Andrew's AFB.







Army. Vietnam. July 12, 1973 – September 12, 1980 Active Duty. September 12, 1980 – February 2, 1983 Reservist. Fort McClellan. 91C30-Patient Care specialist Madigan Army Medical CTR Tacoma WA. Active Duty. 91C30-118th Medical Detachment Bad Hersfeld Germany-Active Duty. 91C30-44th Evac Hospital OKC, OK. Reserve Status. TDY to FT Chaffee Arkansas for Operation New Arrival. Served as the medical detachment to 3/11th Armory Cav Regiment whose mission was to guard the 1K zone in the Fulda Gap. Sharpshooter, M-16 Rifle; Good Conduct Medal (02 Award). Army Commendation Medal; National Defense Service Medal.



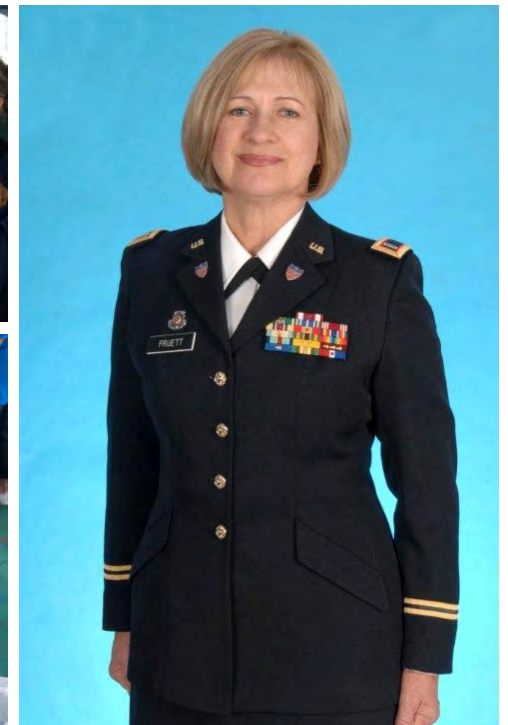




Air Force. 1970 – 1986 March  
AFB, Offit AFB. E4.



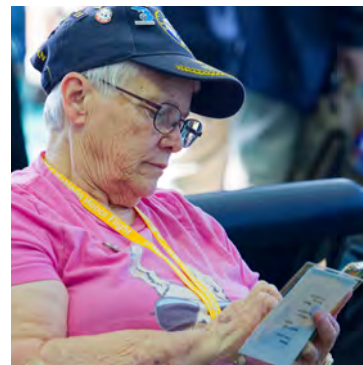




Army. Vietnam. July 15, 1974 – August 31, 1997.  
SFC/E7. 91B, 91E, 75Z. Soldier Ambassador in  
Belize, Central America, 1997. MSM/3, ACM/5,  
AAM/3, AGC/5, AFRM, NCOPD RBN/#, ASR, OSR,  
EFMB.

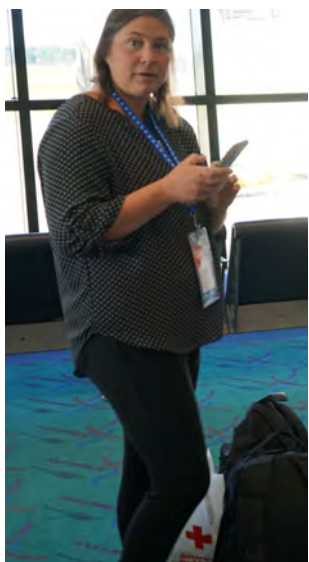






Air Force. Vietnam. January 1972 to November 1979. Russian linguists as active duty. Radio operator in the Reserves. I was in the first class of Air Force females to attend the Defense Language Institute. I was the first female in my unit in Berlin, and only the third female stationed at Tempelhof Airport in Berlin.

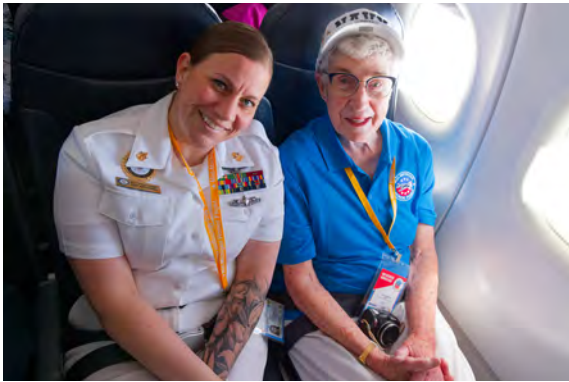




Air Force. Vietnam. September 13, 1973 – March 3, 1979. Served as Green and Yellow Rope for the Women's 08th Training Squadron at Keesler AFB, MS. Enlisted as 328X0 Avionics Comm and then performed duty as 70250. Was chosen for Special Duty 99604 serving at Incirlik CDI, Turkiye and Soesterberg AB, the Netherlands. USAF NCO Orientation Course-Jul 1976. Enlisted as member of the Women's Air Force (WAF). Upon it being decommissioned was discharged and re-enlisted in the Regular United States Air Force. Miss Warmheart-44MMS Ellsworth AFB, SD-Nov 1975. NDSM-AFM900-3 AFGCM-AFM900-3 (13 Sep73-12Sep76).







Army. Vietnam. May 1975 – October 1976. Military Police Investigator. E-3. Fortunately, no exceptional experiences during my time investigating with the military police in Germany. I did not receive my award for working in Germany.







Army. Vietnam. November  
11, 1975 – November 9, 1978.  
54th Military Police Co Ft Ord  
California.







Marines. Vietnam. May 1973 – March 1980. Graphic Illustrator on Active Duty and then Admin in the Reserves. While in the Reserves out of Detroit, I was the only Woman Marine who attended a class in Grayling, Michigan to become a cross-country ski instructor, to later train troops. I also participated in a lot of Color Guard Details and several functions for the 200th Marine Corps Birthday when I was on active duty.







Navy. Vietnam. Enlisted August 14, 1969. Active Service September 4, 1969 – June 1, 1972. Aerographe's Mate. Stationed at Pearl Harbor Hawaii. Did weather briefs to the Admirals and Generals over a sight to sight microwave tv system, weather briefs were of SE Asia, specifically Viet Nam. I received a letter of commendation from Admiral John S McCain Sr and was invited to personally meet him, along with my three coworkers. We were recognized for our work in presenting the weather briefs of Viet Nam.





Air Force. Vietnam. November 1, 1967 – February 1, 1992.  
906/Medical Administration. Japan during Vietnam. Too  
many awards and Recognition to list. First Female SSgt to  
reenlist at Wurtsmith AFB by Base Commander Nov 01, 1971.



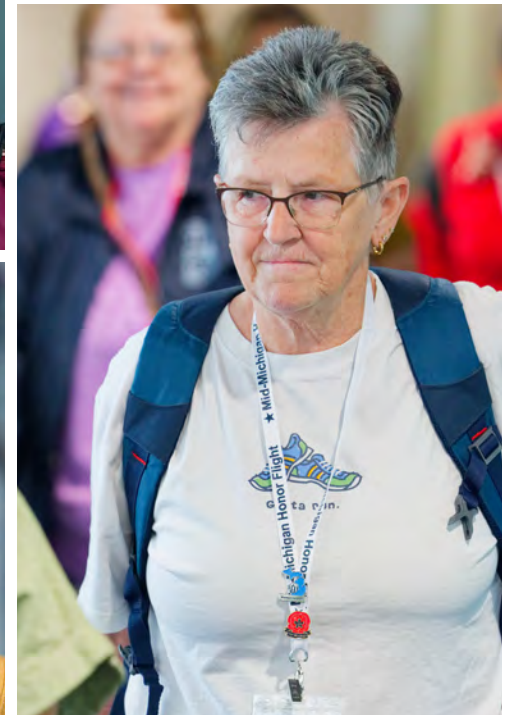
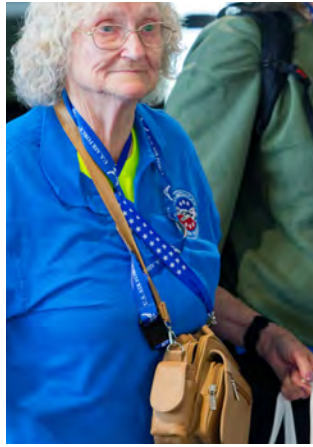




British Army. December 1964 – 1965. Private.







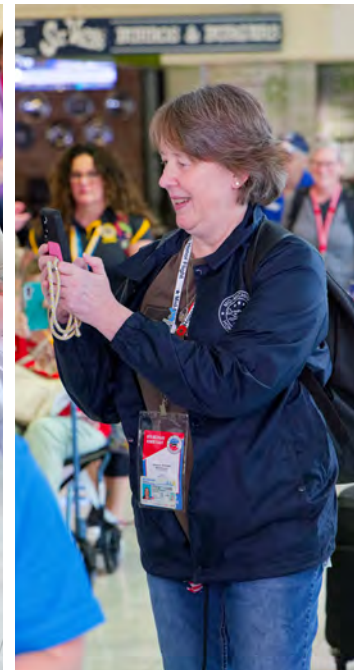




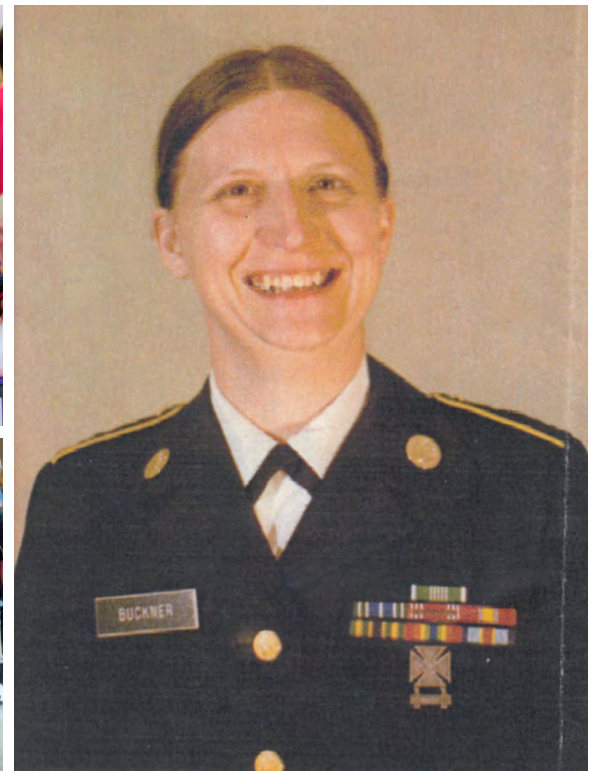
Air Force. Vietnam. September 7, 1966 – March 16, 1970. Food inspection, facility inspection, veterinary clinic, sentry dog acquisition. The most interesting thing was watching people and how they interact with each other.



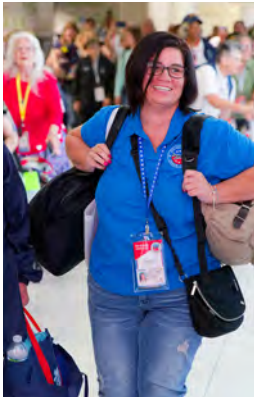




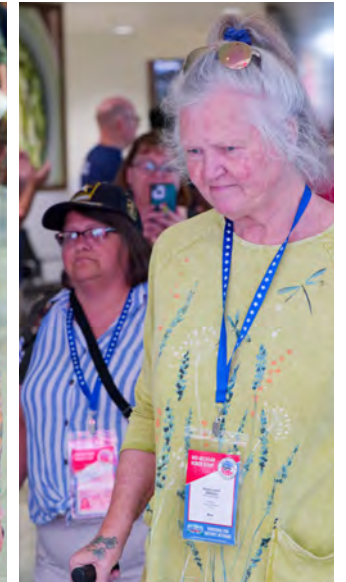
Navy. Vietnam.  
December 5, 1975  
– December 4,  
1979.







USMC. Vietnam. 1974 - 1975, 1977 - 1983. LCPL.  
High Voltage Electrician.















Army. Vietnam. 1965 – 1968 Women's Army Corp Band – SPEC4. Military Band playing taps at military funerals.







Vietnam. Navy 1963 – 1965. Army 1965 – 1983. OR  
Nurse, Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA).



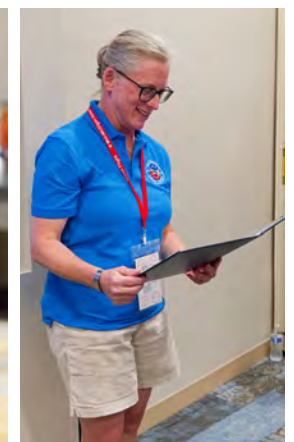


Air Force. March 22, 1974 – January 10, 1980. Sgt. F4 mechanic, transit alert, flight line and phase dock maintenance, T O librarian, tool crib custodian, maintenance manager, plans & scheduling of aircraft maintenance, scheduling of aircraft parts maintenance. Good Conduct, Longevity.





Air Force. Vietnam. January 1969 – March 1992. E-7 Master Sergeant. Info Mgt Technician and Air Force Recruiter / Air Force. I served in the Philippines and in Japan as well as different bases in the states. I helped establish a new Air Force Recruiting AFees Station in Lansing, Michigan. My unit received a Silver Badge for the most recruited enlistees that same year. I also received the Silver Badge for Top Supervisor of my Unit. Meritorious Service Medal, Commendation Medal (2Devices) Organizational Excellence Award, Good Conduct Medal with 2 devices, National Defense Service Medal with device, NCOIC Professional Graduation Ribbon, Longevity Award w/4 device, AF Training Ribbon, AF Overseas Short Tour and Long tour Ribbon, USAF Senior Noncommissioned Officer Academy, USAF Noncommissioned Officer Academy, Noncommissioned Leadership School, Noncommissioned Officer Professional Military Education Graduate Ribbon w/Device.







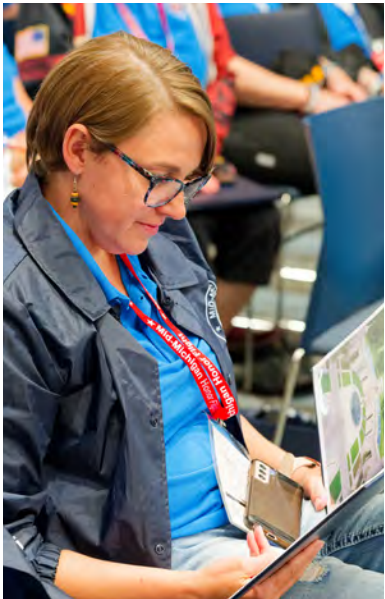
Navy. Vietnam. AK3.  
Supply Dept, Norfolk  
and El Toro, California.  
Handling impressed  
cash fund for supply  
dept.







Air Force. Sgt. E-4. Police officer – patrolling base, responding to civil and criminal activities, investigating crimes. Too many interesting experiences to write about. AF Commendation Medal, AF Good Conduct Medal AF Longevity Service, AF Outstanding Unit w/ One Oak Leaf Cluster, Small Arms Expert Marksmanship.







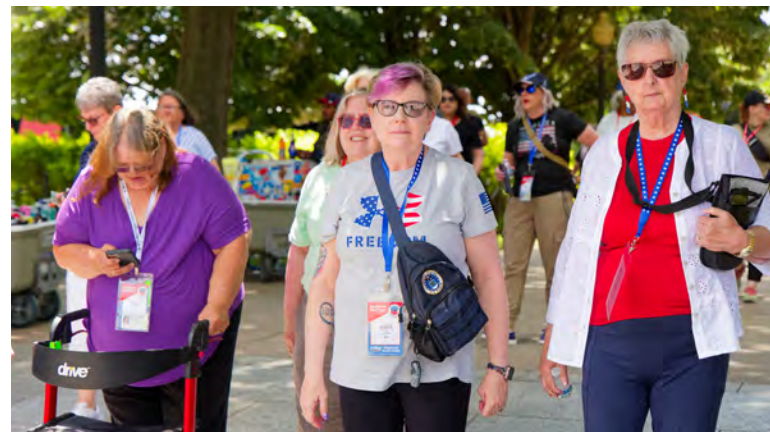
Navy (retired). Served 22 years  
6 months. Served: DC/Virginia/  
Bahrain/West Virginia/South  
Carolina/Florida/Guam. DD 214  
SEC 13 & 18. SK 1 (E-6).







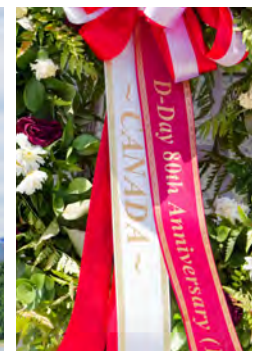
Army. Vietnam. 1964 – 1968 (Active duty 1966-1968). Nurse. Assigned to 71st Evac Hospital in Pleiku Vietnam April '67 to April '68. Awarded Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service. Vietnam Veterans were then, and still are, My Boys. Even with struggles from PTSD, I would do it all over again.







Army. Served 1986-2010 as AGR Nurse for Army Reserve units. Served all over United States (Chicago, Cleveland, Los Angeles, San Antonio, Washington DC, Pentagon, Did two overseas tours, a humanitarian medical mission to Peru, and as a nurse instructor to Omani military.





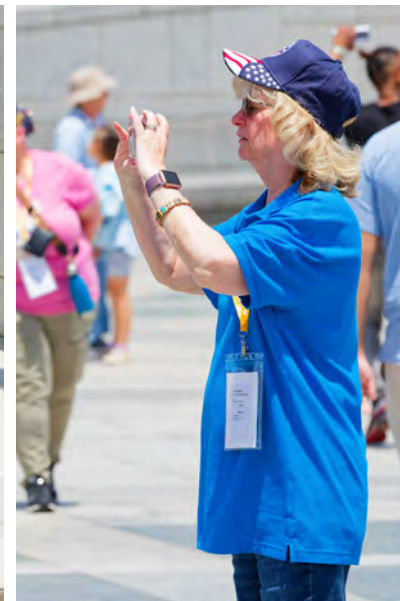
Army. Vietnam. October 10, 1961 – September 23, 1992. Occupational Therapist. Assisted with training of COTA students at the Ft. Sam COTA School. Being ordered to active duty in support of operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm was an interesting experience. I never expected this to happen to me. We had been warned that some unit members might be activated. I was told I probably would not be called because I was older, and my rank was too high. What a surprise it was to receive the call and to report in three days. Getting ready to leave work and be prepared to be away from home, who knew how long, was challenging. It was amazing how quickly I managed to be ready and adjust. Shortly after I arrived at Ft. Sam, I was involved in a navigation exercise. A group of us were bused to a hilly forested area some distance from Ft. Sam. We were dropped off after lunch, given a map and compass. We had to find our way back by dinner time. We did it! This next experience is one I will never forget. This was a play war activity, to prepare us for real war. It took place over a weekend. We set up a hospital tent and a sleeping tent (male/female together). I didn't think I could sleep in the situation. All they said was, "This is war so you can." Shortly after, the war ended and I was on my way home. Army Service Ribbon, Army Lapel Ribbons, National Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal w/Device 25E, Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal (4th Oak Lake Cluster).



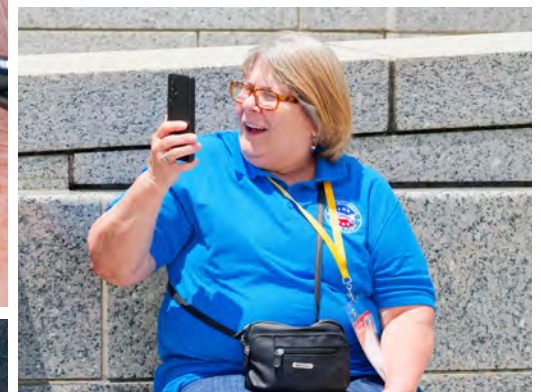




Navy. Vietnam. Navy Nurse Corps 1960-1991 (active and ready reserve). OCHN(W) (Nurse Corps candidate) to Captain. General nursing duties and as a certified nurse-midwife. Navy Commendation Medal with combat V and gold star for second award. Too many interesting experiences to relate!



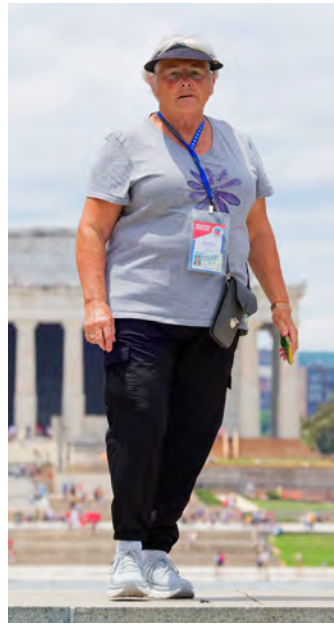




Navy. Vietnam. February 1971 – March 1976. Navy Corps wave (corpsman). Served in Athens, Greece, when government had coup and martial law was declared and then stationed in Rota, Spain, when Franco died and martial law again but this time I was on a Navy base. National Defense, Navy Commendation, Good Conduct.



Navy. Vietnam. February 16, 1973 – July 15, 1975. Hospital Corps Wave. Newborn Nursery, Labor and Delivery, cared for women and children who were dependents of the men on Gilmore, Subtender in LaMaddalena, Sardinia, and Admin at Great Lakes Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, Ill. Assigned to care for two former POWs, two pilots who were shot down over North Vietnam. Cared for a 6-year-old boy on a MedEvac to Naples from Sardinia, received Meritorious Mast.







Army. Vietnam. February 2, 1974 – August 2, 1976. Food spec. Among 1st women trained "RA" in the US. during the Vietnam Conflict. National Defense & Good Conduct metals





Army. Vietnam. April 1, 1974 – January 8, 1975: Mich Army National Guard (WAC); January 9, 1975 – May 1, 1978: United States Army (WAC); May 15, 1978 – January 31, 2014: Mich Army National Guard. Military personnel records specialist from 1974 through 1980, SSG. Military personnel technician from 1980 through 2002, CW5. Command Chief Warrant Officer, 2002 through 2014, CW5. Served from April 1974 through January 2014. I primarily worked in a variety of Army personnel assignments serving in Michigan, Colorado and Germany taking care of Soldiers and providing career guidance. As the state casualty coordinator for ten years, it was an honor to provide support to the families of fallen Soldiers. I had the privilege of participating in leadership visits to Latvia, Bosnia, and Afghanistan. My final assignment was the Command Chief Warrant Officer for the Michigan Army National Guard, serving in the rank of CW5. I worked directly for the Adjutant General of Michigan and supported a number of additional duties. I have the honor of being the first female in the State of Michigan to be promoted to CW5. I am also the first female Command Chief Warrant Officer in the Army National Guard; this includes the US Army Reserve and the United States Army. My highest award is the Legion of Merit (federal award).







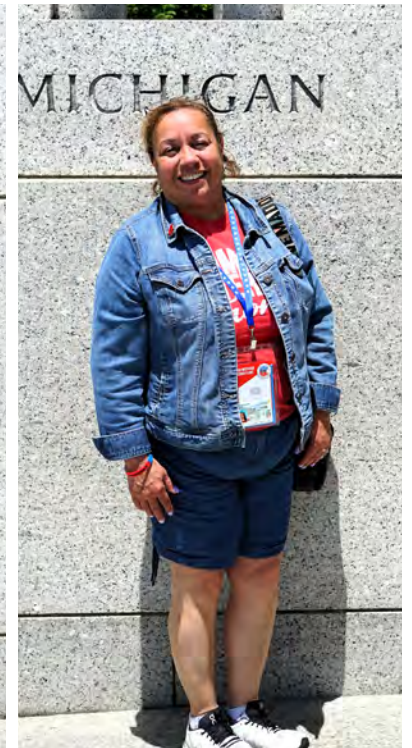
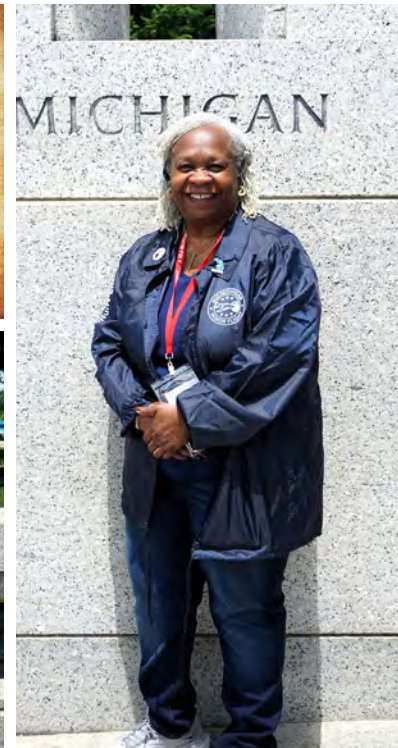






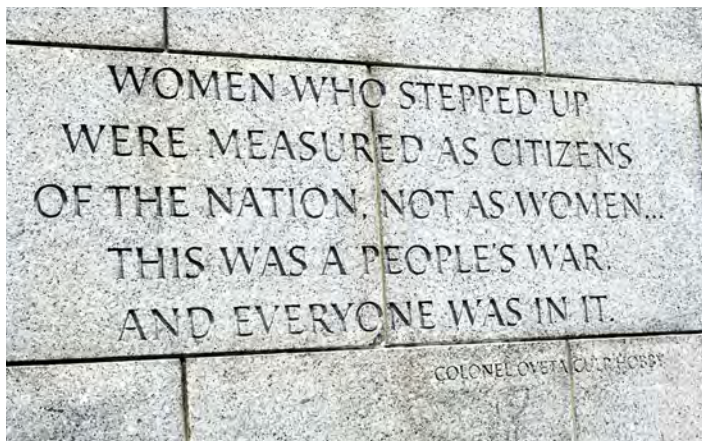


Army. Vietnam. October 16,  
1968 – August 13, 1970. 1  
Lt. Operating room nurse at  
67th Evac Hospital Qui Nhon,  
Vietnam. NDSM – VGM w/60  
Device – USM – ARCOM.

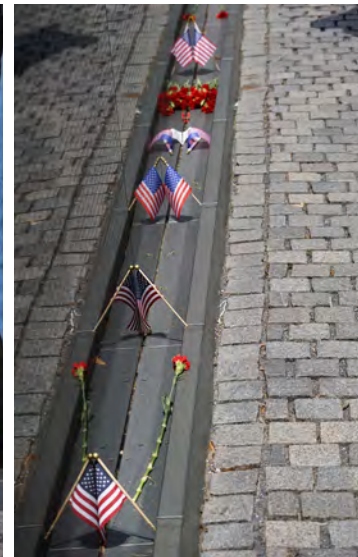
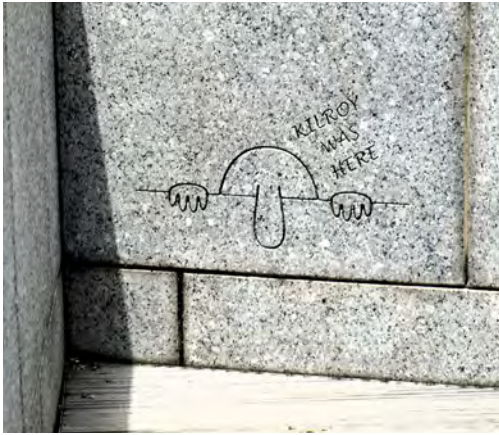




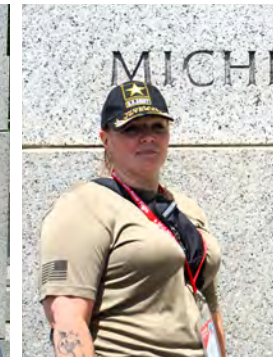
Army. Vietnam. July 1965 to July 1968.  
Specialist 5th class Medical Services  
Branch Oakland Army Base Oakland,  
California Processed veterans being  
discharged from service. Was on lock  
down during protest at the enlistment  
center; was able to go to San Francisco  
Stadium while the Beatles were on  
tour; observed two Chinese New  
Year's parades.







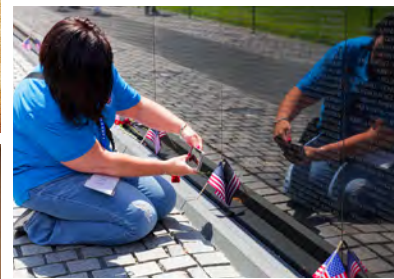
Marines. 1983 – 1987 all years, Parris Island, SC. Cpl.







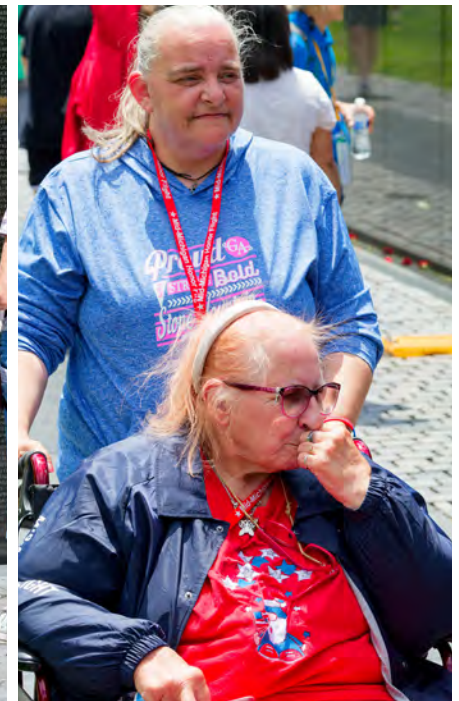
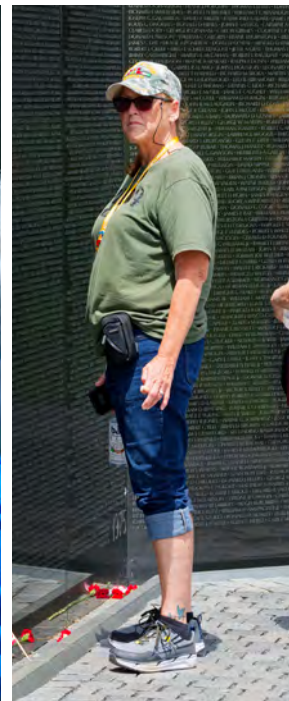
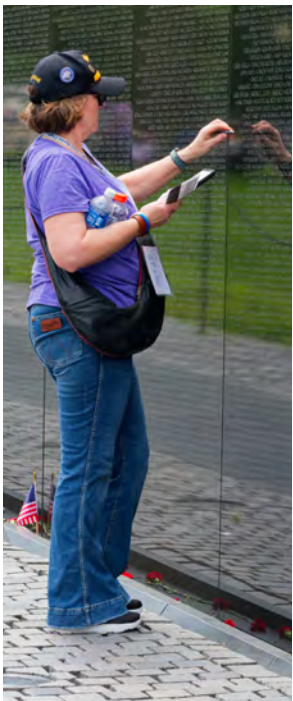
Army. August 1980 – August 1983 Active. August 1983 – August 1987 Reserves. Ft. Bragg, NC. Kaiserslautern, Germany. E4.







Army. 1978 – 1980. Vulcan repair (anti-aircraft gun). Enjoyed my time of being stationed in Germany.







USAF. Vietnam. Regular Law Enforcement.  
Operation Baby Lift – Tent City/Clark AFB,  
Philippines 73-75. AFGCM, (19 Jul 73 – 18 Jul  
76), APR 900-48//NDSM, AFR 900-48//







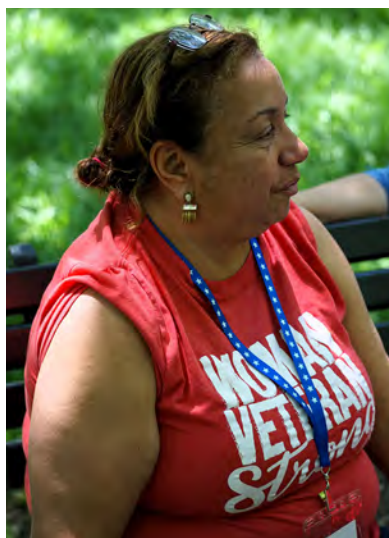
Army. Vietnam. April 19,  
1974 – January 26, 1981.  
E 5. Computer Operator.  
NDSM, GCMDL 2 awarded.







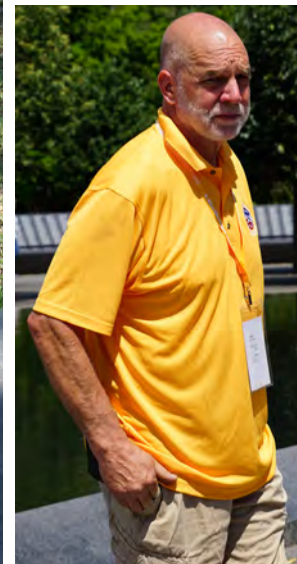
Air Force. Vietnam. June 1965 – January 1966. A3C, E2. Clerk.







Army. Vietnam. August 1, 1961 to August 1, 1963. Personnel Dept. Administration. Paperwork for military assignments to Vietnam. I was promoted to Staff Sergeant 4th Class before my discharge date.







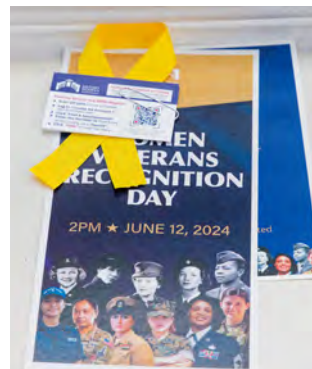
Navy. Vietnam. January 28, 1965 – January 20, 1967. Corps wave. National Defense Service Medal. Met my husband Maurice who was in the Navy, he served with the Marines as a Medic. He was from Brooklyn and had a strong accent and when he told me his name, I thought he said Marsh. It's what I called him ever after.







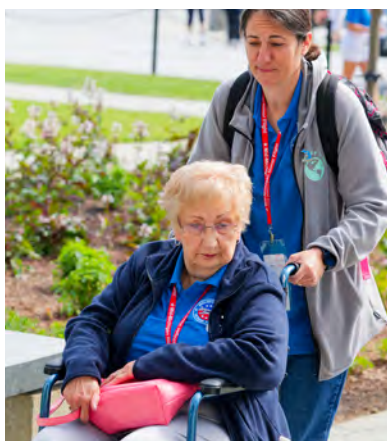
Army. Vietnam. December 26, 1973 – December 23, 1976. Photo Lab Technician; Message Center Clerk Army Security Agency (ASA); Admin Clerk; S1, Adjutant; Training Officer; Public Affairs Officer; Signal Corp Officer, Company Commander; Civil Affairs Officer. Stationed in Augsburg Germany while enlisted, Received numerous letters of appreciation. Climb in the Alps always in the wintertime.







Army. Vietnam. 1974 – 1978. Medical E-4. Medical supply. I had the honor of folding and presenting the flag to the commander of my basic training post. Earned 1st stripe out of basic. Permanent duty station Ft. Ord, CA. The most beautiful place I've ever been. Received soldier of the month there.





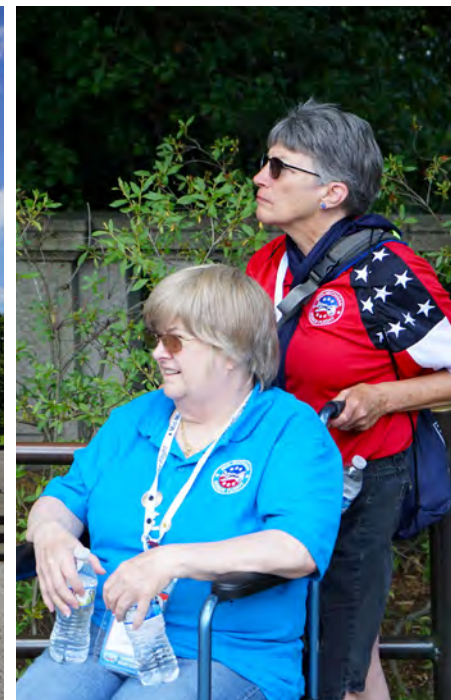


Army. Vietnam. Feb. 7, 1971. Retired March 1, 1991. Personnel, Typed orders, made sure people were paid. Kept records, assignments, etc. NCO that assigned people to their companies. Worked as a recruiter, 1st. female to be selected as a recruiter.





Army. Vietnam. February 9, 1959 – April 18, 1960.  
724.10 Switchboard Operator. Driver.



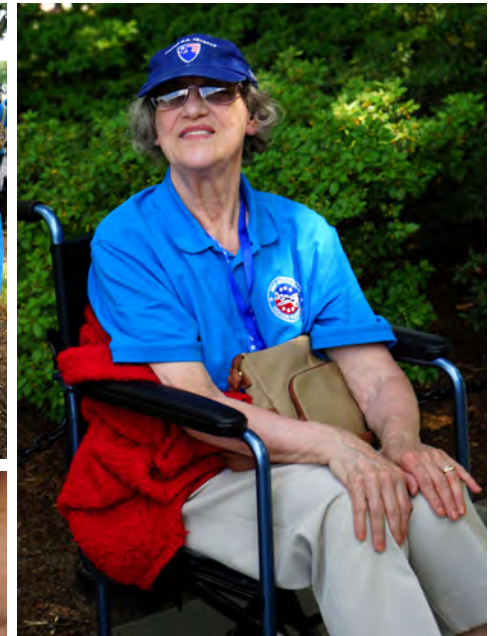




Army. Vietnam. April 19,  
1974 – January 26, 1981. E 5.  
Computer Operator. NDSM,  
GCMDL 2 awarded.







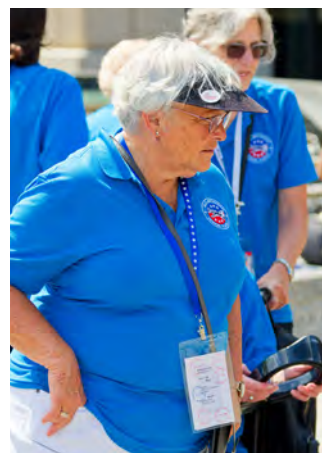
Air Force. Vietnam.  
October 6, 1965 –  
October 5, 1967. Nurse.  
National Defense Service  
Medal.







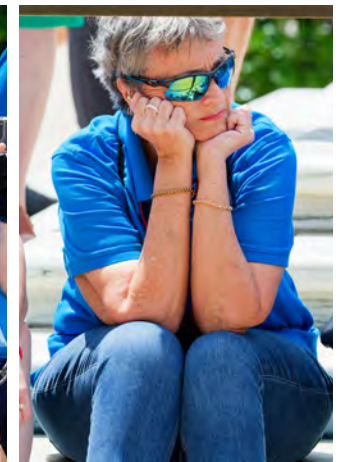
Army. Vietnam. July 29, 1974 – July 27, 1977. Among the first wave of WACS to take basic training at Ft. Jackson.





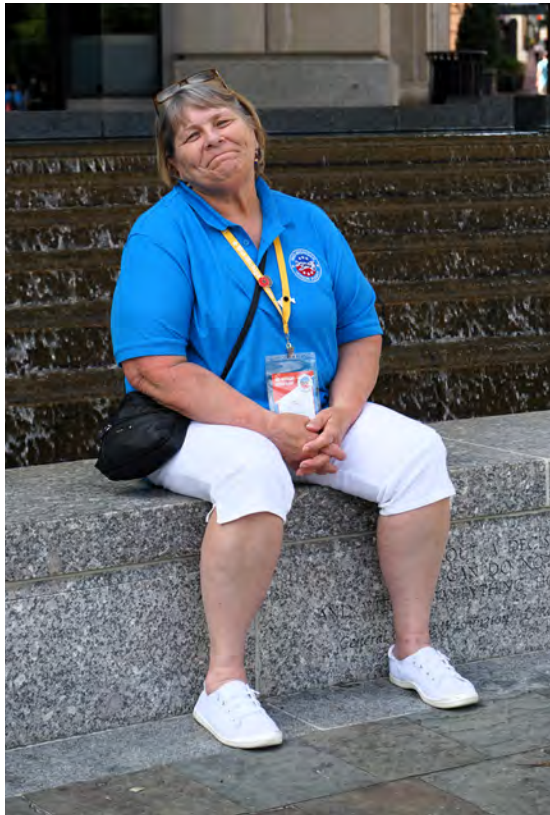


Army. 1979 - 1992. E4.





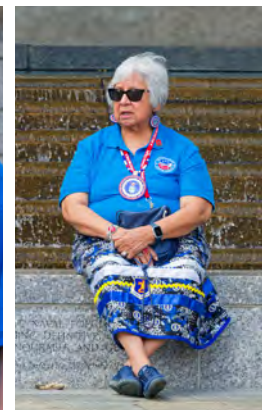
Air Force. September 19, 1969 – May 6, 1970. Clerical.







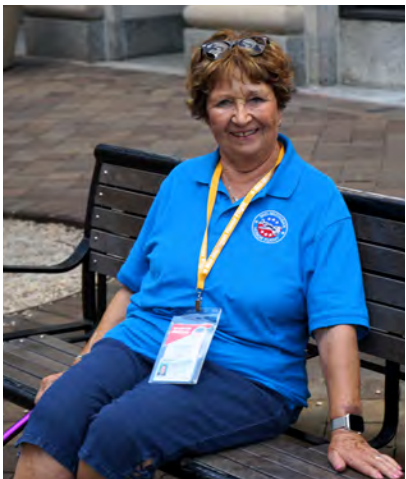
Navy. Vietnam War. 1962 – 1968. HM3. Hospital Corpsman. Taking care of injured Vietnam vets returning stateside. Many awards/medals/commendations, Admiral Letter Great Lakes.







Air Force. SSgt.







Army. November 1973 – November 1976. Com Center Specialist. Really bad marriage? One of the first women to be assigned to 3rd Corp. – 16th Bat.







Army. Vietnam. July 30, 1973 – February 1977  
 91S20, Environmental Health Tech. Sgt E-5.  
 36th Eng. Detachment. Rappelled 60-foot  
 tower. ARCOM x 2, GCM, NDSM. My time in  
 the Army was marked by change. I enlisted in  
 July 1973 and went to basic at Ft. McClellan,  
 AL. I had blue PT's and no fatigues. We didn't  
 do weapons training either. My permanent  
 duty station was Ft. Ben Harrison, IN, with  
 the 36th Eng. Det. Util. We lived in the WHC  
 shack and enjoyed good duty. In 1974 or  
 1975, the Army did away with the Women's  
 Army Corp., even though it did not formally  
 end until 1978. We moved into the men's  
 barracks and lost our protections. There were  
 four women in my company but two lived  
 off post so the other two of us were the only  
 women in the men's barracks. I worked as  
 an Environmental Health Technician (91c20)  
 and did all kinds of public health work. I was  
 eventually issued fatigues and qualified with  
 an M-16. We all survived the changes and did  
 our jobs. I did miss the WHC shack.





Air Force. Vietnam War. 1974 – 1978. Sgt. KC135A Crew Chief ACFT Maintenance at Louisiana Barksdale AFB, safety NCO and Tech Li Brand at Mather AFD in California. First female from Barksdale AFB to pull SAC alert as a Crew Chief on 63-8035 KC 135A tanker/air refueling ACFT.











Navy. Vietnam. November 8, 1962 – November 23, 1964.  
HN 3 (E3). Hospital Corps Wave.







Marines. Vietnam.  
1973 – 1993. Traffic  
Management/Recruiter  
MSgt. Serving in Okinawa  
Japan/Team Spirit in  
Korea.





Army. Vietnam. February 2, 1995. Draftsman, Legal Clerk, Platoon Sgt 1st Sgt.







Air Force. Korea. August 1, 1955 – August 14, 1957. Personnel Specialist. Served in SAC when they perfected in air fueling of the B52. I served during the Suez Canal incident.







Army. 1978 – 1981. Colorado Springs and Mannheim, Germany. PFC.





Marines. Vietnam.  
September 1973 –  
September 1974.  
Pfc Public Affairs/  
Journalist. After Boot  
camp spent 3 months  
at Ft Benjamin Harrison  
Army Base for Defense  
Information School  
and then 6 months at  
Camp Pendleton in the  
Public Affairs office. Was  
honored to be invited to  
review an amphibious  
landing training.







Army. 5 years. Honorable Discharge.  
E6. Tripler Army Medical Center,  
Honolulu, HI. Good Conduct. Army  
Service Ribbon.







Navy. Vietnam. January 1971 – November 1977. May 1993 – May 1996. YN2. Loaded and unloaded planes. Just meeting all the people. Saw POW coming back from Vietnam in Hawaii. Good Conduct, National Defense (2), Expert Pistol, Southwest – Desert Shield, Cold War.







Army. Vietnam. 1972 – 1980 Women's Army Corps, Volunteer Army. II National Guard 1980 – 1983. SSG E-6. Ft Campbell Medical, Ft Jackson/Moncrief Army Hospital, Illinois Guard Med Battalion Chicago. I signed up to be a dental hygienist yet was assigned to be a Media (91B). Then I had additional training as a 91BV1 (AMOSIST) Automated Military Outpatient Systems Specialist. I completed the military program AA on base through University of SC. When I got out and finished my BS in Community Health and MS in Community Mental Health with the GI Bill. I wound up working in the medical field all my life. Good Conduct, Vietnam Era.



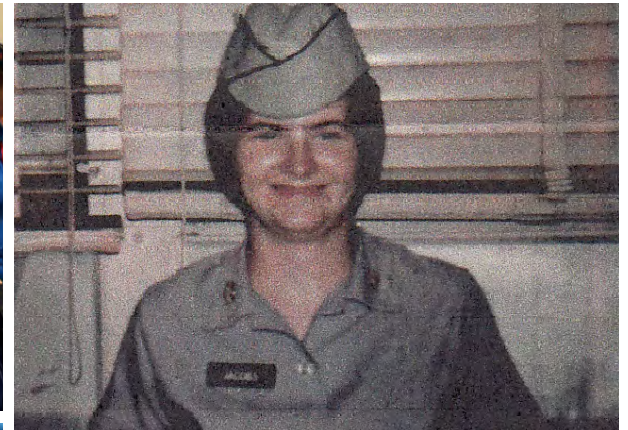




Air Force. Vietnam. March 20, 1975 – March 31, 1995. Nurse Administrator for 4 years. Clinical Nurse for 16 years. Med-Surg, Pediatrics, Oncology, Aeromedical Evacuation Staging Facility, Utilization Management. Entered USAFNC at tail end of Vietnam Era. Served stateside until stationed at Weisbaden for Desert Shield/Desert Storm. As Commander 6th ASF, Opened the first joint AirForce/Army Medical Operation in Europe at Landstuhl. Still in operation today. Received Afghanistan and Bosnian Refugee patients as well as all patients serving in Europe and Middle East. Meritorious Service with 4 device, Commendation, Achievement, Humanitarian Service Medal, Small Arms Expert, Outstanding Unit, National Defense, Overseas Long Tour. Retired as LtCol.





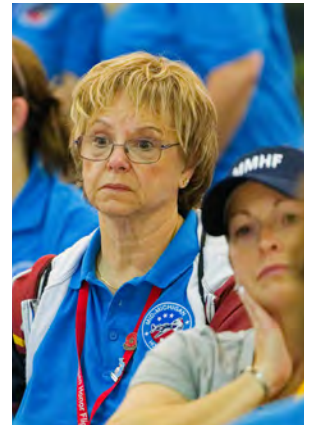


Army. Vietnam. July 8, 1974 – November 25, 1975 Active Duty. May 1979 – December 1990 Reserves. Started out as a unit clerk. Went to re-forged and then I became a legal clerk. When I went back into Reserves, I was a personnel specialist. To be promoted, I had to become an NBC-NCO. First woman assigned to the ASA Company. That "Squeaky" name came from my First Sgt. when he called roll and discovered he had the first female in the unit. They had no billet for me and all of the guys were moved to a different floor. The floor that I was on, by myself, was painted pink! My time in Europe was amazing. I saw so much with a rail pass and have many fond memories.





Army. Vietnam. July 1967 – July 1970.  
07/1967 -07/1970 Spec/5 medical  
specialist, emergency room, intensive  
care & recovery, pediatrics. served at  
Ft. dix, and Landstuhl Army Medical  
Center, Landstuhl Germany, and  
rec'd letter of appreciation from 2nd  
General Hospital commanding officer.









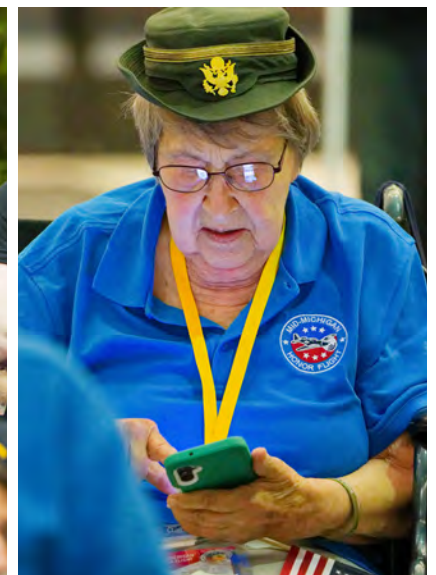
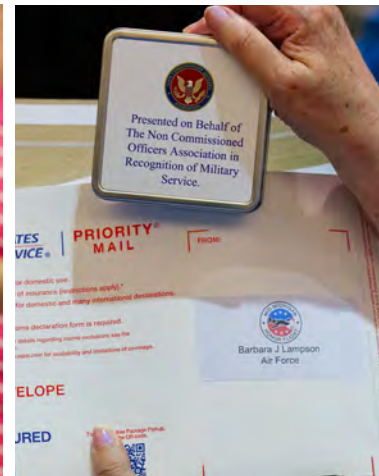


Marines. Vietnam. 1973 – 1976 Active Duty. 1978 – 1981 (about) Active Reserves. Supply Clerk. National Defense Service. A time to earn the title of a Marine. To be a part of an amazing team.





Army. Vietnam. October 10, 1974 – October 9, 1977. Pharmacy Technician. The Vietnam war was pretty much over by the time I joined. I worked at Darnell Army Hospital and an armored troop clinic pharmacy.





## Welcome Home

I watched a young soldier take his seat on the plane.  
The guy by the window said, "son what's your name?"

He said, "Hi I'm Jimmy, just back from overseas  
and when these boots touch down in Texas, I'm gonna drop to my knees.

Because I ain't seen my wife in 18 months and 14 days."  
The man smiled at him and said, "well let me be the first to say:

Welcome Home, Welcome Home,  
It's good to have you back where you belong.  
You fought hard for this land you love,  
and I thank you for all of us.  
We're proud to call you one of our own,  
welcome home."

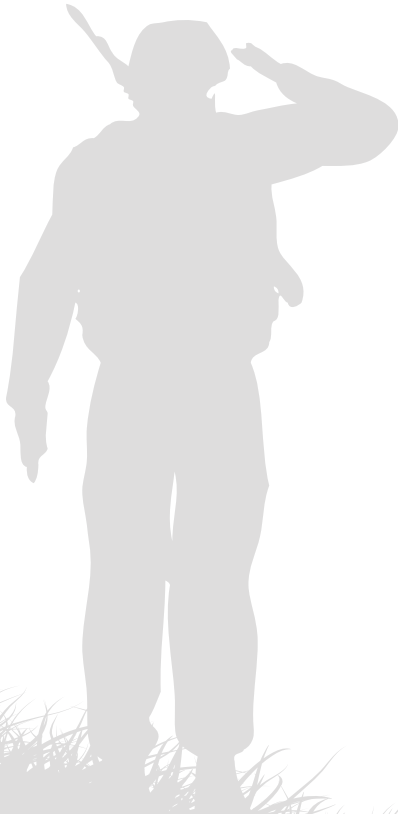
Then the man looked away and said, "I know how you must feel.  
I spent two long years in Vietnam and I got back to Jacksonville.  
There were protest sign and picket lines and some girl spit in my face.  
Hey I was just a kid tryin' to make this world a safe place."

Then his voice started trembling, in his eyes I saw a tear.  
He said, "I didn't need a hero's welcome but it'd been sure nice to hear..

Welcome Home, Welcome Home,  
It's good to have you back where you belong.  
You fought hard for this land you love,  
and I thank you for all of us.  
We're proud to call you one of our own,  
welcome home."

Well the bank was playin,  
and the crowd was cheering,  
as we came walking through that gate.  
Then the soldier stopped and turned to the man  
standing near him,  
he saluted him and said, "Sir I know it's a little late but...

Welcome Home, Welcome Home,  
It's good to have you back where you belong.  
You fought hard for this land you love,  
and I thank you for all of us.  
We're proud to call you one of our own,  
Welcome home....."





## JUNE 11-12, 2024 FLIGHT

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Diane Abbott	Judith Decker	Michael Horne, Jr.	Nancy Mead	Luanne Shirkey
Susan Arnold	Lynette Dilbert	Lou Ann Howard	Mary Ann Merritt	Eloise Siekirk
Shirley Austin	Lori Dimmers	Jill Jacobs	Kim Mills	Page Sikes
Julie Babel	Monica Duffield	Kari Johnson	Phyllis Moravec	Heather Sleep
Mikayla Badour	Roxanne DuFort	Nancy Johnson	Mary Morrison	Colleen Smith
Mary Baker	Wendy Estes	Donna Jones	Melanie Nau	Diane Smith
Gladys Ballard	Maria Everman	Jenifer Jones	Carolyn Newell	Sandra Smith
Molly Barnes	Anna Fidge	June Keane	Joan Newvine	Leanne Snowden
Amanda Barros	Kathleen Flannery	Marcia Keane	Lois Olson	Keri Sutton
Donna Bauer	Eric Fletcher	Denise Kearn	Eileen Oposnow	Amanda Taylor
Normajean Bennett	Judith Flynn	Kathryn Keil	Lois Oprych	Sheila Thomas
Vera Bahry	Janet Fonger	Antonia Delcarmen Kennedy	Myra Ostrander	Stella Thurkill
Claire Bissonnette	Sara Ford	Fabrianna Kirklin	Sheila Overholts	Joann Tillman
Lorrena Black	Louann Fowler	Jan Klett	Gale Owens	Marcia Voisine
Dale Blunk	Marsha Matthews-Frain	Melva Koepke	Deanna Sinclair-Parker	Carey Wagen
Dorinda Sparks-Boak	Karen Franco	Natividad Delacarnen Kolb	Mary Rigg-Patterson	Carla Wegner
Theresa Bousson	Edyta Boron-Freseman	Kerrie Kornexl	Julee Peterson	Darlene Weidmayer
Kris Brady	Ruthann Fuentes	Christina Kremm	Lyn Petrowski	Linda Welch
Tina Brooks	Roseanna Gant	Joette Kunse	Lynne Carr-Phillips	Kaylee Wells
Angela Helen-Martin Brown	Bonnie Giddings	Barbara Lampson	Carmenencita Pinckney	Nancy Wells
Bonnie Buckner	Cecilia Glynn	Diana Laskey	Lori Pink	Dolores Winqest
Lee Ann Buckrop	Ina Golden	Salena Laskowski	Jon-Kayla Pointer	Christine Winter
Roberta Burleigh	Katrina Gramer	Julia Laules	Sonya Potts	Anna Owens-Wolfe
Ashley Campbell	Vicki Green	Karen Lee	Rhea Pruett	Linda Woods
Shila Chaney	Nancy Gulick	Margaret Little	Lindarae Radtke	Nancy Wright
Sandra Chwierut	Renee Haley	Ginger Lorencz	Deborah Rasmussen	Cindy Wyant
Karen Ciesielski	Shelley Hardy	Ruth Love	Doreen Reel	Esther Wynder
Corrine Lynn-Schurz Clark	Shirley Havens	Adrienne McLarahmore	Eileen Ross	Julia Zabriskie
Toni Enbody-Clayton	Ada Heath	Suzanne McSawby	Roberta Salisbury	
Therese Comfort	Pamela Hicks	Cheryl Martinez	Tammy Scott	
Heather Curell	Justina Hlavka	Charlene Matthews	Melissa Seidel	
Cheryl Darling	Denise Hoffman	Judith Maynard	Coleen Sexton	



# Once a SOLDIER



# Always a SOLDIER

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