

Welcome everyone to the official website of the AC-119 Gunship Association. The Association was formed in 2000 at our first-ever reunion that year held in Fort Walton Beach, Florida. We hope you enjoy our new website!

Thanks to fifty-four (54) AC-119 Gunship Association members donating enough money at the 2014 Albuquerque Reunion for the initial start-up costs of creating an updated, all-inclusive website and the diligent efforts of our Association Information Technology (IT) Team, our new website is now reality. Most all of our old website, which was created, financed, and maintained since October 1998 by one of our Association's Founding Fathers Bill Petrie, has been incorporated into our new website. We salute Bill for his hard work and dedication to our Association throughout the years.

Our IT Crew headed by Wayne Laessig, Jim Mattison, and Ron Julian along with significant contributions by crewmembers Fred Rider, Mike Drzyzga, and Bob Dydo deserve special recognition for their commitment to the design, development, and implementation of this interactive website. We proudly salute each one of them!

This website incorporates all aspects of the AC-119 Gunship Association from our Association history, by-laws, and reunions to final flights. You will enjoy expanded information including documents plus the increased gallery of photographs. Continued donations and fund raising projects to support our website will insure that our unique history and current information is available for everyone online. Our Legacy Squadrons and future generations of family and friends will now be able to access our history online, long after all AC-119 gunship air warriors, maintenance crews, and support personnel have taken their final flights.

This website is the *HEART* of the AC-119 Gunship Association for communications and operations. I encourage you to make www.ac-119gunships.com your home page on your computer. Remember to join the *HEARTBEAT* of our Association i.e. our Facebook group page "AC-119Gunships." Also remember that the AC-119 Gunship Association has designated the Vietnam Center and Archive at Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas as the official depository of choice for AC-119 memorabilia and other related materials. The purpose of the AC-119 Gunship Website, Facebook Page, and the Vietnam Center is to keep alive the Legacy of the 71st SOS and 17th SOS AC-119G "Shadows" and the 18th SOS AC-119K "Stinger" Gunship Squadrons during and after the Vietnam War.

Guns Hot,

Larry Fletcher, President
AC-119 Gunship Association

p.s. Flying and fighting in combat to support and defend the Southeast Asia free nations of South Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia against communist aggression was a high calling for young American airmen and highly commendable. The sacrifices made by our AC-119 Gunship Squadrons and support troops and their families at home will live on indefinitely with your continued support of our website in future years. REMEMBER!