

# USAF AC-119 GUNSHIPS

Guestbook Visitors During 2004



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Please tell us about your visit by **Adding** to this guestbook we are keeping!*

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**Please Note:** We are a group of Vietnam Veterans documenting our history & we use our personal funds to host this web site. We welcome your visits to the site & hope you enjoy reading & seeing some of our "little known" history. However, we do mind you trying to advertise at our expense.  
Please continue to visit.... but advertise & leave your nonsensical messages elsewhere. *Thanks!*

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With the New Year celebration coming this weekend, I just want to wish my comrades-in-arms a safe evening. Remember the words of Ed McMahon.....he stayed home new Year's Eve because "There are too many amateurs out there drinking that night". Enjoy.

Bob "de Debil" Frederick <[frederickunltd@yahoo.com](mailto:frederickunltd@yahoo.com)>

Louisville, KY USA - Wednesday, December 29, 2004 at 20:24:34 (EST)

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Merry Christmas & Happy New Year from my family to all my fellow gunship families. May you have a safe & happy holidays.

Jerry Hester <[hester@access1.net](mailto:hester@access1.net)>

San Antonio, Tx USA - Saturday, December 25, 2004 at 12:20:53 (EST)

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Wishing all the Gunship Families a very Merry Christmas & a Healthy, Safe & Happy New Year.

Jim Terry <[shadow70@sbcglobal.net](mailto:shadow70@sbcglobal.net)>

Fairfield, CA USA - Saturday, December 25, 2004 at 10:57:45 (EST)

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The Very Best of the Season to All & a Better New Year.

Neil Taylor <[neilat@earthlink.net](mailto:neilat@earthlink.net)>

Ft Worth, TX USA - Saturday, December 25, 2004 at 09:40:07 (EST)

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Following is some additional information regarding the books mentioned a couple of days ago. It comes from the POC I mentioned...Ms Debra Moss. The book titled, "Development & Employment of Fixed Wing Gunships," by Jack Ballard is only available free of charge to active duty, retired, reserve, & national guard military members, & current DOD civilians. Our book entitled "Air Base Defense in the Republic of Vietnam." Please note that this book is now out of print. Both of these publications are available electronically at our web site:

[www.airforcehistory.hq.af.mil](http://www.airforcehistory.hq.af.mil). Due to the high cost to print our publications, we request that individuals use the electronic version. If they absolutely have to have a hard copy, please address their requests to the following mail box: [afhso.book.orders@pentagon.af.mil](mailto:afhso.book.orders@pentagon.af.mil)

George Carter <[chiefjorge@classicnet.net](mailto:chiefjorge@classicnet.net)>

Little Rock AFB, AR USA - Friday, December 24, 2004 at 12:02:50 (EST)

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We just wanted to say THANK YOU for 2 of our best years, even though MSgt William E "Uncle Bill" Reffner is not with us, we have been treated like we are family. Especially Mingo, Wayne, Jim, Jeff & everyone else that we have ever talked to. You all have given us the freedom to be able to enjoy the Holidays, & every new year that we are here. With every new year we wish to find more & more crew members ie: Jeffrey "Donkey" Winters, Jerry

Swain, Rich Hay, Jim Holt & every other one that is out there. So once again Thank you, & Hope everyone that reads this has a very Safe & Happy Holiday, & a very prosperous New Year. And Hope to see everyone in Fort Walton Beach, FL in October. From out of the West, Low & Slow, The Reffners.

Bill, Tammy & Catherine Reffner <[cbscruffy@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cbscruffy@sbcglobal.net)>

Sacramento, CA USA - Friday, December 24, 2004 at 02:02:10 (EST)

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Just wanted to say Merry Christmas & a happy Holiday to all of the men of the Gunships. Seldom does a day go by that I don't think of you or an incident that occurred during my time in Viet Nam with you. May god be with you forever. Bat

Robert Masterson <[ibmasterson@hotmail.com](mailto:ibmasterson@hotmail.com)>

Spencer, IN USA - Thursday, December 23, 2004 at 14:32:11 (EST)

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Was Lead Gunner& Instructor From 1968 thru 1973

Jimmy D. Jones <[bbchkln@gdsys.net](mailto:bbchkln@gdsys.net)>

Defuniak Spgs., Fl. USA - Thursday, December 23, 2004 at 14:11:47 (EST)

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Was Lead Gunner& Instructor From 1968 thru 1993

Jimmy D. Jones <[bbchkln@gdsys.net](mailto:bbchkln@gdsys.net)>

Defuniak Spgs., Fl. USA - Thursday, December 23, 2004 at 14:08:31 (EST)

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I am hoping to locate Doug & Linda Metcalf via this page. If anyone can get them my email address I would appreciate it greatly. They were very good friends from Travis AFB about 30 years ago, & I have lost touch with them. Thank you, & thank you all for your service to our country. Merry Christmas [kayduelfer@hotmail.com](mailto:kayduelfer@hotmail.com)

Kay Duelfer <[kayduelfer@hotmail.com](mailto:kayduelfer@hotmail.com)>

Lodi, CA USA - Wednesday, December 22, 2004 at 16:05:42 (EST)

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If anyone is looking for a good book on the history of gunships, I recommend 'Development & Employment of Fixed-Wing Gunships' 1962-1972, by Jack S. Ballard. The best part about it is the price -- Free. It is available from the Office of Air Force History. Contact Ms Debbie Moss ([debra.moss@pentagon.af.mil](mailto:debra.moss@pentagon.af.mil)) & she will mail it to you. Another is 'Air Base Defense in the Republic of Viet Nam, 1961-1973' by Roger P. Fox. It doesn't go into much detail about gunships though. Addresses all types of aircraft employed during that period. Hope everyone has a great holiday season & may the new year bring happiness & prosperity.....George

George Carter <[chiefjorge@classicnet.net](mailto:chiefjorge@classicnet.net)>

Little Rock, ar USA - Tuesday, December 21, 2004 at 10:43:49 (EST)

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Hi to my Gunship Brothers & families. First I want to wish all the happiest & safest of holidays. May God Bless you & yours. The Reunion V wrap-up Newsletter is out. All members should have received it or will receive it by the end of the year. If you have email & got the Newsletter by regular mail, it means we do not have a good email address for you or you may not have Acrobat Reader on your PC. Acrobat Reader is a free download by going to [www.adobe.com](http://www.adobe.com) Hope to hear from all as to whether you received the Newsletter or not. Take Care EV

Everett Dale Sprous <[everettsprous@sbcglobal.net](mailto:everettsprous@sbcglobal.net)>

St Louis, MO USA - Monday, December 20, 2004 at 16:40:34 (EST)

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My heartfelt thanks go out to our service members & their families for the sacrifices they endure daily & especially during the Holiday Season. Especially to the "Dog-faced Soldier" & the "Mud Marine" : those guys & gals at the very tip of the spear. We can sleep peacefully at night because these rough men & women stand ready to do violence on our behalf. May God bless you & your families & bring you home safely.

The Yankee Air Pirate

Fairview, OR USA - Monday, December 20, 2004 at 15:37:54 (EST)

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Holiday greetings to the 18th & to a WebMaster who knows history. Gunship III/Stinger, the most underated ship on the Ho-Chi-Minh trail. God Bless.

Bill <[lebleau@mac.com](mailto:lebleau@mac.com)>

TX USA - Sunday, December 19, 2004 at 16:51:26 (EST)

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happy holidays to all gunshippers. especially my Stinger1 brothers. hope all are able to spend some quality time with their families during this happy season. my son-in-law just got back from his second 6 month cruise in a sub in the last 2 years so we will all be together. see everybody soon in fwb when Stinger1 will have all 10 crew members in attendance. brothers forever  
mike traynor <[mike119gunner@juno.com](mailto:mike119gunner@juno.com)>  
orchard park, ny USA - Saturday, December 18, 2004 at 16:51:56 (EST)

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I saw amongst the attendee's of the last reunion, Al (Ken) Nash, who was my OG on Shadow-before I went to the 20th SOS. I've been trying to track him down for years. Can anyone give me any contact details? Sorry guys-- But, if it doesn't hover, it sucks! Cheers  
David Galvan <[davidgalvan@btconnect.com](mailto:davidgalvan@btconnect.com)>  
Wickham Market, UK - Thursday, December 16, 2004 at 10:43:55 (EST)

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I'm with you Ray. It's only 25 degrees here now, & I'm looking forward to the beaches already. Happy Holidays to all the Gunshippers & families. See ya this fall.  
Johnny Higgins <[jmhiggins@alltel.net](mailto:jmhiggins@alltel.net)>  
Little Rock, AR USA - Tuesday, December 14, 2004 at 09:03:33 (EST)

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To all my brothers & their families, Sue & I would like to wish all of you a safe & happy holidays. See ya all in Ft Walton Beach in Sept. Ray & Sue Barradale  
Ray Barradale <[raynsue@ptd.net](mailto:raynsue@ptd.net)>  
Albrightsville, PA USA - Monday, December 13, 2004 at 16:29:37 (EST)

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I was a gunner with the 18th SOS 72-73. I am trying to locate information for a mission flown from Bien Hoa on 20/21 Nov 72 or 8/9 Dec 72. I need a copy of the Form 1 (Duty Roster) for those dates & the tail numbers of the aircraft flown on those dates. I am also looking for members of the aircrew (FE, IO, Navs, gunners) that flew those missions with me & Lt. Steve Maclsaac. If anyone knows the whereabouts of Lt. Col. Lawrence R. Hileman, former commander of the 18th, please send his contact information to me. (501) 988-1962 (Home Phone). I will be retiring from the AF in Feb 2005. If anyone is in the Little Rock area on 11 Feb (ceremony date) stop by & join in the festivities. Lunch at 11:00, ceremony at 2:00. Col. (Ret) Steve Maclsaac will be here to help kick this old chief out the door.  
George Carter <[chiefjorge@classicnet.net](mailto:chiefjorge@classicnet.net)>  
Little Rock, AR USA - Thursday, December 09, 2004 at 14:30:14 (EST)

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Glad I found your site. It was personally satisfying to find the story of "Stinger 41" by CMSgt Corbett. Capt Terry Courtney & I were in class 69-08 (the "Hellions") at Webb Air Force Base, Big Spring, Texas. Terry was single, the only son of a widowed mother. I was married & Terry was a frequent guest in our home. We were friends & shared the trials, tribulations & highs of flight school. After graduation, I went off to Vietnam, bounced around a while in C-47's (delivered some of the last gunships to Thailand in late 69) & eventually served with the 9th SOS at Tuy Hoa, RVN from september to august (69-70). There are few weeks that go by that Linda & I do not mention or reflect upon Terry, his friendship & his sacrifice. He was as exceptional in his life as he was in the circumstances of his heroism. He has been deeply missed. Ron Rosson, Col, USAFR, Retired  
Ron Rosson <[rosson@worldlinkisp.com](mailto:rosson@worldlinkisp.com)>  
Bailey, CO USA - Sunday, December 05, 2004 at 18:46:05 (EST)

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after thirty some years I found my pilot & co-pilot thru the ac119 gunship ass. they are capt's, hiener & keller better known shadow 14 or members of herr hieners flying circus of c flt. 1970-71 also merry christmas & a happy new year to all special ops types  
john w. morrow <[morrowjl@charter.net](mailto:morrowjl@charter.net)>  
alamogordo, nm USA - Saturday, December 04, 2004 at 23:45:54 (EST)

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My father was a stinger in 1971 & I have heard many stories but it is great to be able to see photos & read the stories of the true hero's that were in the war. I am proud of my dad & what he did & I look at your website all the time to see the changes. I hope one day to see photo's of the him & his crew & possibly read stories about them. Keep up the good work. Thank you

Scott Rush <[Scott.Rush@cbre.com](mailto:Scott.Rush@cbre.com)>

Roseville, CA USA - Thursday, December 02, 2004 at 00:44:04 (EST)

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Hi Bill Petrie, I had your Site before, but I lost it when my Computer went down. What is the URL for your beautiful A/C Gunship Site also? Thanks, John Needham

John Needham <[jneedham@nycap.rr.com](mailto:jneedham@nycap.rr.com)>

USA - Wednesday, December 01, 2004 at 15:18:25 (EST)

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To all my gunship brothers, happy holidays & safe keeping for you & your families throughout the Christmas & New Years period. I am honored to be one among all of us.

Jay Smith <[jaycsmith@aol.com](mailto:jaycsmith@aol.com)>

Clinton, MD USA - Tuesday, November 30, 2004 at 17:21:13 (EST)

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I was one of the original gunners when the 18th SOS was formed at Lockbourne AFB, Ohio in 1969. We deployed from Lockbourne in October of 69 to fly the Friendly Skies of Vietnam. Seems like only yesterday.

Larry Gleason <[larrynytowa@comcast.net](mailto:larrynytowa@comcast.net)>

Spokane, WA USA - Saturday, November 27, 2004 at 12:31:56 (EST)

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wishing everyone the happiest of holidays & hoping to see everyone of the gunshippers in Ft Walton this year

Tom Schroeder <[Jodistom01@aol.com](mailto:Jodistom01@aol.com)>

newalla, OK USA - Thursday, November 25, 2004 at 06:50:02 (EST)

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Wishing all Gunshippers & thier families a Very Happy Thanksgiving. May God Bless Everyone.

Jim Terry <[shadow70@sbcglobal.net](mailto:shadow70@sbcglobal.net)>

Fairfield, CA USA - Wednesday, November 24, 2004 at 17:14:37 (EST)

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Stinger Brothers, Frank Bartlett (gunner) & myself, Dan McDuffie (gunner) are trying to locate any crewmember that was on a combat mission on August 11, 1972. On this mission a mini-gun jammed. As Frank & I were trying to clear the jam, a round cooked off blowing the gun apart. I was struck in the right shoulder by a piece of the blast shield & Frank sustained power burns to both eyes. The Co-Pilot administered first aid to Franks eyes, we rtb & both reported to the dispensary for medical treatment. Frank & I are attempting to get the Purple Heart we feel we deserve. In order to do this, we need collaborating statements from two crewmembers on this flight. If you were on this mission, Frank & I would be most grateful if you would contact us. Thanks in advance

Gunnerdan3@hotmail.com

Dan McDuffie <[gunnerdan3@hotmail.com](mailto:gunnerdan3@hotmail.com)>

Oakford, IN USA - Wednesday, November 24, 2004 at 15:39:02 (EST)

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My dad was SSgt Donald R. Somerville. He flew as an IO on Shadow w/the 17 SOS. Wanted to cry when I came across this site. I found some of his memorabilia & I've preserved it. An old crew picture standing in front of Shadow, 2 business cards, one of Shadow & one of Stinger. He wanted so badly to attend your first reunion, but fell ill with cancer (VA determined the cause to be Agent Orange) & was taken from us in Feb 2001. I'm grateful for all that you've done. I'm active duty (Air, of course) & his stories of you all are my inspiration for continuing my service. If anyone would like to contact me, please feel free to do so at my email address. I'll always be a daughter of "Shadow". Thanks & God Bless!! Martha Ryan

Martha Ryan (Somerville) <[mj6kids@yahoo.com](mailto:mj6kids@yahoo.com)>

Overbrook, KS USA - Tuesday, November 23, 2004 at 23:04:16 (EST)

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To all the ones who gave their lives, to the ones that still remain with us, may we pay a special thanks to you all who have served to make us free. Thank you from: The Reffners From out of the West, Low & Slow, The Ref's Always have your Six.

Bill, Tammy & Catherine Reffner <[cbscruffy@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cbscruffy@sbcglobal.net)>

Sacramento, CA USA - Thursday, November 11, 2004 at 21:29:16 (EST)

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Hello Shadow's! I am looking for information regarding the 17th SOS Plaque that moved with us from Nha Trang to Tuy Hoa about 1 August 1969. It was about 24 inches in diameter & was a large version of our Shadow patch. Marine Sergeant Don Turner "borrowed" the plaque & took it back to Chu Li after visiting our "A" Flight at Tuy

Hoia in the fall of 1969. You may recall that he was the one in the mess hall at Chu Li who kept us in food when we regenerated at that base. Don Turner also flew on one of our gunship missions. Major Bob Weisel knows a bit about that mission. If you have any remembrances about who made the plaque, painted it, conspired with Don Turner who took it, or any other information please call me at 208-543-8116. Thanks! Charles M. (Chuck) James Buhl, Idaho  
Chuck James  
Buhl, Idaho USA - Thursday, November 11, 2004 at 09:44:59 (EST)

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Great website! I'm an active duty navigator in the current version of the 17th SOS, an MC-130P Combat Shadow unit. We're SOF Helo refuelers now, if you didn't know. Our current commander is passing out all kinds of interest references so we can learn of our heritage. It's awesome! Wish the unit still flew gunships, though. I've been charged with producing a heritage video of the 17th & I'd like to use the stories & pictures from this site to inform my production. I think it's a great resource & would prove invaluable to this project. I hope no one objects to this not-for-profit endeavor. If so, please contact me at the email address provided.

Art <[arthur.ross@kadena.af.mil](mailto:arthur.ross@kadena.af.mil)>

APO, AP USA - Thursday, November 04, 2004 at 19:33:03 (EST)

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CALL FOR HELP!!!!!! Your Association Awards & Decorations Recovery Board portion of Our Web Site will be up within the Month.....but WE Board Members are not waiting!!! As we gather important DATA - thanks to all of you who have resonded!! - we are finding that the CREW ROSTER/DUTY ROSTERS are becoming the 'most important' document in supporting OUR MEMBERS (Good job 71st!!! Got your Rosters!!) - in the 18th we called them FORM 1's, I'm not sure(?) what the 17th called them...they were the DAILY list of WHO FLEW WITH WHOM ON A GIVEN NIGHT....very important DATA....so check your FILES, check your old War Locker, check your old boxes in the attic....YOU MAY HAVE KEPT A COPY...important to YOU, & it gives the HISTORY on 5 or 6 OTHER CREWS that NIGHT!! IF YOU FIND ANY...make a copy & send to me! ALERT: IF we have ANY Association Member who is within driving distance of MAXWELL AFB, AL.....plz contact me...maybe our 'Duty Rosters/Form 1's are in some kind of 'storage' there....I KNOW OUR SQUADRON HISTORY IS THERE!! Thanks & Cheers - Col Mac, Col Steve 'Mac' Mac Isaac, USAF Ret. 6449 Coventry Hills Dr., NE RIO Rancho, NM 87144 (h) 505-867-3367 (cell) 302-249-1499 (e-mail) NMacisaac@aol.com

Col Steve 'Mac' Mac Isaac <[NMacisaac@aol.com](mailto:NMacisaac@aol.com)>

RIO RANCHO, NM USA - Wednesday, November 03, 2004 at 23:34:30 (EST)

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Just found the site. As a former Gunner on AC-119K's I wanted to check in. I was with the 18th SOS at NKP 72-73 Milton Baird

Milton Baird <[miltonb@peoplepc.com](mailto:miltonb@peoplepc.com)>

Auburn, Me USA - Thursday, October 28, 2004 at 14:24:50 (EDT)

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Yo, Duke! How bout those Sox?

Ollie

Fairview, or USA - Thursday, October 21, 2004 at 11:37:27 (EDT)

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I pass a gentleman on the 405 in the mornings with a lic. plate frame referencing the AC-119. Curious, I found your site. I enjoyed the history & information. All good & infomative. Thank you, much. "M"

M. Britton <[m.a.britton@usa.net](mailto:m.a.britton@usa.net)>

El Segundo, Ca USA - Tuesday, October 19, 2004 at 18:30:38 (EDT)

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I think the reunion should stay in Ft. Walton Beach. Aside from the fact that our memorial is there & our roots are there, it is just a great place to go in the fall. I don't believe that the spectre reunion is moved around the country, is it?

JT

USA - Thursday, October 14, 2004 at 17:34:22 (EDT)

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Chuck Lunsford, our favorite C-119 radio operator of the 1950s, author of "Departure Message" & other publications, has been honored to receive the first review of a new movie, "Flight Of The Phoenix". Chuck has passed along several URLs that include that review. With his blessings, I will list one of them. Contact me directly if this URL doesn't work for you. <http://us.rd.yahoo.com/movies/trailers/1808411963/1808597175/>

Lee <[ac119k@msn.com](mailto:ac119k@msn.com)>

Lompoc, Ca USA - Tuesday, October 12, 2004 at 16:19:59 (EDT)

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Thanks again for a great reunion. I would like to throw this out to the membership for consideration at the next reunion meeting. I know we voted at the second reunion to move the reunion every 5 years. Based on the amount of new members that showed up this year, most of them drove, I'm suggesting that we move the reunion every 3 years. Our members are not getting any younger & the purpose of the organization is to connect with as many members as possible. Looking at the roster that we have, I'm proposing that the next time we move the reunion that it be in PHOENIX, ARIZONA. Several reasons for this choice are 1) As noted many members are from the area or nearby 2) airfares to the area are much cheaper than flying into smaller locations 3) Closeness to Luke AFB. Searching the internet there is a Sheraton Four Points located in No. Phoenix for rate of \$79/night, (I'm sure we can get lower group rate) It has a tremendous pool & is located right next door to the largest shopping mall in Phoenix, (don't forget the wives), 15 miles from the airport & 15 miles from Luke. I am only bringing this up now so that members who live in the area can start working/volunteering on same in advance just as Ron & his crew had time in Dayton. I'll see you all next year in Fort Walton & hopefully we will have all of Stinger Crew 1 (had 8 of us there this year) to have as much fun as legally possible. Gear up & fly straight  
Jerry Snyder <[det1114@verizonmail.com](mailto:det1114@verizonmail.com)>

Mount Siani, NY USA - Tuesday, October 12, 2004 at 10:59:09 (EDT)

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I am proud to have been part of an historic occasion; Reunion V. Good to reconnect with friends; & having the opportunity to make new ones. It was indeed a gathering of brothers. I finally met Bill Petrie, EV, Fletch, Ray Barradale, Ron Julian & Rogers. Kudos to all involved. I even met & chatted with Col Terry; a true visionary. My face hurt for three days; just from smiling so much. Grand event. Can't say enough good things about it.

jim mattison <[jmatti@sonic.net](mailto:jmatti@sonic.net)>

rohnert park, ca USA - Tuesday, October 12, 2004 at 00:24:55 (EDT)

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Reunion V was great! Got to see some of the old reprobates (Hi Ollie) & some friends who were there for the first time. Looking forward to being back in FWB next year. De Debil

Bob Frederick <[frederickunltd@yahoo.com](mailto:frederickunltd@yahoo.com)>

Louisville, KY USA - Sunday, October 10, 2004 at 00:08:02 (EDT)

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Hi Gun shippers, I just back from the reunion in Dayton. I want to thank everyone involved for the great time. This was my first & hopefully not my last one. I want to thank everyone involved There was a lot of talk about Brothers: that is just the way I felt. It was like a family reunion. I felt so welcome. Allen Chandler IO 1970

[allenbchandler@cox.net](mailto:allenbchandler@cox.net)

Allen Chandler <[allenbchandler@cox.net](mailto:allenbchandler@cox.net)>

Phoenix, AZ USA - Saturday, October 09, 2004 at 23:46:05 (EDT)

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Mahalo nui loa to Ron Julian, Gus, & all this year's officers & volunteers for the hard work in putting together a great Reunion V. That Museum sure is nice, too! 71-72 Stinger aircrew who has a AM or DFC order containing Robert E. Behrens name on it please contact me as I'm still searching for this fellow IO & good friend of mine. Same same for my FE, Donald R. (Ray) Davis. Much mahalo to you. Jesse Lau, Stinger IO & Shadow Crew Chief.

Pono Jesse Lau <[pono@knology.net](mailto:pono@knology.net)>

Panama City Beach, FL USA - Friday, October 08, 2004 at 20:40:37 (EDT)

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AC-119 Gunship Awards & Decorations Recovery Board re-cap; 1) 'go-to' site should be up on this web in the next 4-6 weeks. 2) Need copies of any Form 1's (Duty Roster) for 18th SOS types - for 17th & 71st copies of your duty rosters that showed what 5 or 6 crews flew on a given night. 3) Readable copies of crew & individual DFC, AM, BSM, AFM orders. 4) Readable copies of AF Form 1098 that showed COMMANDER's & other OFFICIAL DATA. 5) Drafts or copies of SUPPORTING paperwork for Crew & individual awards. (don't need citations. FOR ANYONE WHO CAN NOT WAIT FOR THE A&D Web to be up contact me & I will get you started on your 'checklist' - Cheers - Col Mac Col Steve 'Mac' Mac Isaac, USAF Ret. 6449 Coventry Hills Dr., NE RIO RANCHO, NM 87144 (h) 505-867-3367 (c) 302-249-1499 (e-mail) [NMacisaac@aol.com](mailto:NMacisaac@aol.com)

Col Steve 'Mac' Mac Isaac <[NMacisaac@aol.com](mailto:NMacisaac@aol.com)>

RIO RANCHO, NM USA - Friday, October 08, 2004 at 19:00:00 (EDT)

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Fellow Viet Vet, Just saw your web site. I was stationed atop Nui Ba Den in 1972 as a radio operator for the 21TASS. Our call sign was Sundog Alpha. I spent 4 one month tours starting in April through November. I just want to thank all the Specter Gunship (C-130 gunships) for saving our lives so many times when we where under assault. God Bless you all for the brave work you all did in Vietnam!! Eddie Howell

[Eddie Howell <eddiehowell@sbcglobal.net>](mailto:eddiehowell@sbcglobal.net)

Mercedes, Tx USA - Thursday, October 07, 2004 at 09:32:39 (EDT)

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Just wanted to say thanks to all who made reunion-V a great experience. This was my first & hopefully not my last. For the record, I was a gunner on Shadow from June 70 to June 71, mostly at Phan Rang. Also spent all of 72 on Spectre. Again, Thanks for the great time in Dayton.

[Bill Zito <ribillz@aol.com>](mailto:ribillz@aol.com)

Vacaville, CA USA - Wednesday, October 06, 2004 at 17:02:14 (EDT)

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What can we say? Great time for all, with many thanks to those who put it all together.

Neil <[neilat@earthlink.net](mailto:neilat@earthlink.net)>

Ft Worth, TX USA - Tuesday, October 05, 2004 at 23:19:56 (EDT)

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How can I get a copy of the group picture that was taken during the reunion at the memorial site? I had a great time at the reunion, thanks for inviting me!!!

Tom Honzik <[thomman2000@yahoo.com](mailto:thomman2000@yahoo.com)>

New Lenox, ILL USA - Tuesday, October 05, 2004 at 13:40:19 (EDT)

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To all involved with Reunion V,& especially Ron Julian,who took all the heat at the banquet, THANKS. It was great it was a great reunion. See you on 9/30/05.

The Yankee Air Pirate aka Ollie <[hsreid@earthlink.net](mailto:hsreid@earthlink.net)>

Fairview, OR USA - Tuesday, October 05, 2004 at 10:23:45 (EDT)

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Just got back from Dayton I want to thank everyone involed for the great time I am so looking forward to next year. I hope everyone enjoyed it as much as I & my son did the museum was fantastic . ok lets try to contact more maintance folks Thanks again see ya all in Ft Walton

Tom Schroeder <[Jodistom01@aol.com](mailto:Jodistom01@aol.com)>

Newalla, OK USA - Tuesday, October 05, 2004 at 10:04:55 (EDT)

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Hi Gunshippers, just back back from Reunion V in Dayton. Another great Reunion. I want to think all the people who put their all into this one. I also want to think the attendees. It was great meeting our brothers from the 71st SOS. Once again I will have have Reunion photo CD's available. They will be \$5.00 to cover the cost of the CD & postage. There are about 170 photos on this one. I do believe I got shots of the almost everyone. I am already looking forward to Reunion VI at Fort Walton. We made a new By-Law that states that anyone associated with the 119 Gunships are eligible to be members of the Association. That means if you worked on or flew on the 119 Gunship either in the states or in SEA, you can be a full annual or life member. I am looking forward to having applications come in from all those folks who were associated with the Shadow & Stinger. Take care my Brothers & Sisters till we meet again. Editor EV

EV Sprous <[everettsprous@sbcglobal.net](mailto:everettsprous@sbcglobal.net)>

Saint Louis, MO USA - Monday, October 04, 2004 at 16:29:04 (EDT)

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Just as they did in '71, the guys in Lynchburg have added a second shift to insure there is an adequate supply of Jack for the Stingers. See you at the bar on Friday.

Ollie, the Yankee Air Pirate <[lf you don't know it "you're not worthy"](mailto:lf_you_don't_know_it_you're_not_worthy)>

Fairview, OR USA - Wednesday, September 29, 2004 at 11:26:58 (EDT)

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Saw pictures of a few of the FAC type airframes in the Hurlburt Air Park broken up pretty bad & on their backs. Wonder if the ole 119 weathered the storm.

craig Corbett

USA - Wednesday, September 29, 2004 at 11:24:32 (EDT)

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Just got back from the liquor store & got the last bottle of Jack. They told me that there was a shortage because out West (Oregon) some guy named the "Yankee Air Pirate" aka "Ollie" stated he was bringing a whole bunch to Dayton. So on your trip to Dayton look out for a guy who might seem a little tipsy & keeps repeating "I don't know where I'm at but I'm making good time"

Jerry Snyder <[det1114@verizonmail.com](mailto:det1114@verizonmail.com)>

Mt Sinai, ny USA - Wednesday, September 29, 2004 at 11:06:15 (EDT)

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Just a note on Ivan's damage, Ft Walton Beach had minor damage with some trees down & roof damage. However Navarre & Pensacola really took a hit. Many houses completely destroyed. We chose the right time to have the reunion at Dayton. See you Friday.

Jim Bennes <[jbennes@earthlink.net](mailto:jbennes@earthlink.net)>

Valparaiso, FL USA - Tuesday, September 28, 2004 at 17:04:25 (EDT)

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See everyone in a couple of days at Reunion V in Dayton. Most of the Association Officers are there or will be there by Thursday, September 30. Looks like this is going to be a great Reunion & a perfect year not to hold it in Florida. Let's hope next year we'll have relief from the weather down there. Take Care EV

Everett Sprou <[everettsprous@sbcglobal.net](mailto:everettsprous@sbcglobal.net)>

St Louis, MO USA - Tuesday, September 28, 2004 at 07:47:29 (EDT)

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well the time is finally here see ya all in Dayton

Tom Schroeder <[Jodistom01@aol.com](mailto:Jodistom01@aol.com)>

Newalla, OK USA - Monday, September 27, 2004 at 23:18:04 (EDT)

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Looks like the gunshippers have dodged a bullet (as usual!!!) by heading up to Dayton for Reunion V. I called the Sheraton 4 Points in Ft. Walton last week & they said the hotel was closed until Oct 4 due to hurricane damage. One more week to go - Jo Anna & I look forward to seeing everybody next weekend at the reunion in Ohio.

Bruce Byrd <[duneintl@aol.com](mailto:duneintl@aol.com)>

Houston, TX USA - Sunday, September 26, 2004 at 01:21:38 (EDT)

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Greetings all! Jim Bennes, Jim Curran, Bill Feezor, Vern Hansen, Dave Kuhn, Brent O'brien, it will be great seeing you at the reunion! I'm looking forward to meeting other Gunshippers & getting in contact with as many Stingers as possible who were at Danang in 1970. My thoughts go out to those cleaning up from the hurricane season. See ya' all in Dayton!

Jeff Baker <[jpbaker@abcinet.net](mailto:jpbaker@abcinet.net)>

Couer d' Alene, ID USA - Saturday, September 25, 2004 at 12:17:58 (EDT)

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Greetings to all the reunion attendees. We could sure use some help during the reunion (Friday, Saturday, & Sunday). Things like collecting tickets at the door of the functions, helping with t-shirt & lithograph sales, etc. If you can contribute a couple of hours, please drop me a quick email. We have some volunteers (Kudos) but will need many more to keep things running smoothly. Regards to all & safe traveling. Ron

Ron Julian <[takitus@email.com](mailto:takitus@email.com)>

Bellbrook, Oh USA - Tuesday, September 21, 2004 at 21:18:10 (EDT)

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I've been looking for someone who served with my father in WWII. I know he was in the Army BUT I had hoped someone could help me I really do not know where to go to look. Dad, Carl D Chesmore, was a POW in Germany & returned home but lost contact with his friends. He would like to hear form some of them I know he served in the 45th inventory. Thank you if you can be of any help.

Karlene <[nannaskikki@aol.com](mailto:nannaskikki@aol.com)>

Bethany, OK USA - Saturday, September 18, 2004 at 16:33:26 (EDT)

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Hope everyone in the Ft. Walton Beach area came through ok!! Jim Bennes...if you read this or anyone there, let us know.

Marc Brewer <[Brewone@lowcountry.com](mailto:Brewone@lowcountry.com)>

USA - Saturday, September 18, 2004 at 06:26:05 (EDT)

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Just browsed your sight. I was stationed with the 4417th (Under Col. Johnson) as a Elec Tech on the AC-119's in '69 until rotation of AC's to Vietnam. Help out on Maintenance at Dang AB in '70 while with the F4's. Would like to join

Victor Daigre <[vdaigre@countrynet.net](mailto:vdaigre@countrynet.net)>

Pittsburg, TX USA - Monday, September 13, 2004 at 09:20:16 (EDT)

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Very nice site & nice pics & info about the old girl, the C-119 & the powerplant they flew with. I am retired(NCO'93"from 177th FG NJANG) Since then I have joined up with the BAHF & fly Airshows with our C-54 Skymaster"Flying MUSEUM" of the BERLIN AIRLIFT. Now we have underway our new project with the Boeing C-97G STRAT with HER mighty P&W 4360's Radial's! We ferried HER due EAST from Moses Lake WASH. to Greybull WYO. for the first leg & then the 2nd leg was EAST to HER new home in the hangar at Floyd Bennett Field in Brooklyn NYC. This is where the COLD WAR MUSEUM EXIBIT will take shape inside HER HUGE FUSELAGE. Those 4 big round 4360's should be coming to life sometime soon! "KEEP THE BIG PISTONS FLYING" Regards, JR

[Jim Reed](mailto:reedj@webtv.net) <[reedj@webtv.net](mailto:reedj@webtv.net)>

Surf City , NJ USA - Friday, September 10, 2004 at 21:33:18 (EDT)

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Chief this site has come a long way in the year I've been off line in the hospital & all I can say is VERY NICE it has indeed grown into the site you were thinking of.

James E. Harris, MSgt,USAF Ret <[starian\\_ace@yahoo.com](mailto:starian_ace@yahoo.com)>

Evansville, Ind USA - Sunday, September 05, 2004 at 08:28:48 (EDT)

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A couple of weeks ago I read an inquiry as to the location of Capt. Jerry Marples .Just recently I attended his mothers funeral.Jerry was there & he was in the 17th what a small world He retired as a L/C I didn't know he was in the A/F .We both grew up in a small town in Nebr.pop 502 I was a couple of years older than Jerry so he didn't hang out with older boys.Was great to see Jerry again as it had been 55 or 60 years since we last saw each other Thanks to this web site Mission in reuniting will probably see him again at reunion 05. Hi brothers: Fred Eggert

Fred Eggert <[fwandkd@diodecom.net](mailto:fwandkd@diodecom.net)>

Fairbury, Ne. USA - Saturday, September 04, 2004 at 02:30:50 (EDT)

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As to the upcoming reunion, can I just show up for one day & join some activities. I live within driving distance. I will not be able to take off the time for the full reunion.

Tom Honzik <[thomman2000@yahoo.com](mailto:thomman2000@yahoo.com)>

Ill USA - Friday, September 03, 2004 at 13:57:35 (EDT)

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I was one of the drivers that transported maintenance troops to & from thier shops or aircraft while we were stationed at Lockbourne 68/69. I was also one of the guys that packed up all the guns & flashligts to be shipped over while the 119's were loaded with fuel tanks in the bellies of the planes. Sorry I never went over, was told they didn't us over there & we (drivers) PCA'd to basemotor pool. 6 months later though I was remote in alaska, Indian Mtn. I remember a crew chief del flowers, friend of mine bob stocker, one guy from Kentucky had moonshine. That was something. Someone who had a boss mustang/bmw bike. Mager McAfee commanders ex I think. lots of fun at lockbourn. Ret Msgt in NC now.

[Bill Hanson](mailto:nosnah@icomnet.com) <[nosnah@icomnet.com](mailto:nosnah@icomnet.com)>

Goldsboro, NC USA - Tuesday, August 31, 2004 at 09:42:12 (EDT)

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The Awards & Decs Committee needs your input. If you have a set of orders awarding you the DFC or Air Medal, dated 1 Jan 73, or later, please get a copy to me. Actually, the list of names on the orders, & the orders number is what is important. The remainder can be blacked out for privacy concerns. Thanks.

Lee <[ac119k@msn.com](mailto:ac119k@msn.com)>

USA - Thursday, August 26, 2004 at 00:13:28 (EDT)

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We Need YOU! Just like our Uncle Sam, our Association needs a volunteer force, notice the operative words "our Association" & we're looking for some of you AC-119ers to step up to the plate for a year on the Association Board. First, it's really fulfilling. Second, yes it does take some work but most worthwhile things do. Third, we have some of our volunteers on their 6th straight year & we want some backups for some of us old(er) farts

whose bodies & brains aren't 20ish anymore, as well as some additional new blood to keep us honest! If you've appreciated what the Association Board(s) have accomplished over the last 6 years, show it by volunteering for a year, it won't kill you & it will help keep our AC-119 Gunship family alive & healthy! Or, if you haven't liked everything we did, step right up & let's get you involved in the fun! Bottom line...we ARE a brotherhood (with a lot of our spouses creating a sisterhood as well) & brothers help out when called. Send your names to any Board member. Please tell them what you might be interested in doing, or ask them about some of the roles the Board fulfills. Thank you & looking forward to seeing you in Dayton! Wayne Laessig [Qadvocate@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Qadvocate@sbcglobal.net) (707) 592-4492

Wayne Laessig <[Qadvocate@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Qadvocate@sbcglobal.net)>

Vacaville,, CA USA - Wednesday, August 25, 2004 at 09:35:02 (EDT)

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First, thanks to all you "Shadow" crews for being there when those of us in SOG recon needed you "guardian angels" above us at night in Laos. Maybe it sometimes seemed like you were only poking holes in clouds up there, but your presence & firepower was deeply appreciated by those of us on the ground. And second, thank you for adding my new book to your site ("Secret Commandos) -- it includes one account, (April 70) when an AC-119 overflew our team all night, with NVA shaking the bushes for us. We'd have fired you, but our X-band repeater was inoperative, & you could not lock onto our radar reflective panel. The only other option would have been a visual signal, & that would have told the enemy exactly where we were hiding. By the way, that recon mission, just south of Highway 110, about 18 miles due west of Ben Het Special Forces camp, was led by Medal of Honor recipient Franklin Miller. Again, best to all of you. JOHN PLASTER

John L. Plaster <[jplaster@cheqnet.net](mailto:jplaster@cheqnet.net)>

USA - Wednesday, August 25, 2004 at 03:36:25 (EDT)

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Hey you GUNSHIPERS!! A great 'FIRING CIRCLE' is out. In it there is a short note on the Association's newly formed AWARDS & DECORATIONS RECOVERY BOARD. I need any OFFICER &/or NCO who worked in Awards & Decorations - in any of the Squardons or at WING - to contact me.....we need your HELP!!! Thanks & Cheers - see you all in DAYTON - Mac

Steve 'MAC' Mac Isaac <[NMacisaac@aol.com](mailto:NMacisaac@aol.com)>

RIO RANCHO, NM USA - Tuesday, August 24, 2004 at 18:49:44 (EDT)

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I came upon this site trying to communicate with the Venezuelan Air Force. I am not skilled in computer expertise, so please excuse me. My husband, Capitan Nestor Luis Guerrero, was killed when his plane crashed in 1967 in Maracay, Base El Libertador. He was a member of the "Los Caciques" team. I have reason to believe that his body where I buried him has been moved to Caracas to a place called the "pantheon of heroes". I have never been contacted about this, & it is extremely greivous to me, as he has two sons who would dearly like to know about their father & what happened to his body & his gravesite. I had erected a beautiful headstone on his gravesite. I have never been financially able to return to Venezuela, but I certainly believe that the Venezuelan Air Force could have contacted me about this. I have tried writing them & phoning them, but never received a reply. I can give you more information, if needed, his friends, his fellow pilots, etc. His untimely death was a complete devastation to me. I married him in Selma, Alabama when he was in the USA for training, he had Venezuelan & American Air Force Wings. If anyone out there can help me, please, please, contact me. Thanking you in advance, Shirley McAfee Guerrero Mellin

shirley mellin <[pokesaladgrammy@msn.com](mailto:pokesaladgrammy@msn.com)>

las vegas, nv USA - Tuesday, August 24, 2004 at 00:19:50 (EDT)

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This may have already have been posted, but there are apparently still active, flying C-119's--check [www.flyingboxcar.com](http://www.flyingboxcar.com)

Jenny (James) Bowman <[jennyjbowman@hotmail.com](mailto:jennyjbowman@hotmail.com)>

Dyersburg, TN USA - Tuesday, August 17, 2004 at 11:11:08 (EDT)

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Just thought I would drop in & update my email address & offer a bit of encouragement on the search of our missing brothers from Vietnam. Last night while sitting in a dinner theater visiting with the couple across the table complete strangers at the time we soon learned we both were in the 17th SOS at different locations I was at Nha Trang 68-69 & he was at Saigon 69-70 & a pilot on AC-119G's. I am sure he will be posting here soon

Ed Thayer <[bacafoman@pdi.net](mailto:bacafoman@pdi.net)>

Crescent , ok USA - Sunday, August 15, 2004 at 23:41:08 (EDT)

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As a member of the 4th Air commando Sq. Nha Trang Vietnam Nov. 68- Dec 69 I found your article to be one of the best I've seen in years. I worked in the Ac47 phasedock & at times on the line. At 19years old when arriving in South East Asia, I spent time at Phu Cat, Da Nang, I grew up fast, you have brought back to me some great memories, thank you. Frank Vallone Msgt Ret. USAF

Frank Vallone

USA - Saturday, August 14, 2004 at 14:57:40 (EDT)

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Just checking in. I'll be at the reunion THIS TIME! see you all there. It is a small world. Tonight I was hanging at my favorite coffeshop. I got to talking to one of the other regulars, & lo & behold, his father used to be an AC-119 Pilot. His dad's is Capt/Maj Erich Voester. He lives in Oregon. Just thought I'd put that out for those who might be interested. His dad doesn't have email. But if you know his dad just email me & I'll send you his son's email.

[jimmattison](mailto:jimmattison@sonic.net) <[jimmattison@sonic.net](mailto:jimmattison@sonic.net)>

rohnert park, ca USA - Saturday, August 14, 2004 at 04:06:04 (EDT)

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Will try to make to the 2004 reunion. School keeps me busy this time of year but have high hopes on sneaking out this year.

RON GILBERT <[rprkhill@netins.net](mailto:rprkhill@netins.net)>

Seneca, MO USA - Wednesday, August 11, 2004 at 19:33:40 (EDT)

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"Help Wanted?" I'll be arriving at the reunion Friday afternoon,(early), & will be glad to help out where ever needed.

Jim Ray <[yarjj@aol.com](mailto:yarjj@aol.com)>

Palestine, TX USA - Wednesday, August 11, 2004 at 16:29:12 (EDT)

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**Reunion V, 2004 attendees you have a great opportunity to help the association!!!**

We need someone to help set up & resupply the Hootch Bar throughout the weekend. This is Not a full time job (but definitely an important one) & will require "some" time. We prefer someone with a military ID so they can have access to the class VI store. They would need to arrive early on Friday or even better, Thursday.

We also need someone to manage the sales of the lithographs. Bill Petrie will be getting them & the paintings here. We need someone to manage the sales, schedule & staff "sales periods," control the money, etc.

We are also in need of someone to staff the registration table at the Hope Hotel on Friday Afternoon when we expect most folks to arrive. *This is a great spot for spousal assistance.*

In addition, we need someone to staff the registration table at the Museum on Saturday night as we check folks into the museum for the dinner. We'll need up to four people to track & verify attendance on *preprinted* worksheets. You'll just need to "check them off"& point them in the direction of the dinner location. Folks, these are the only four that come to mind right now. If other areas of assistance are anticipated, please drop me a note with a short description like the ones above.

The Reunion Committee will greatly appreciate your support.

*See you all in Dayton!*

[The webmaster](http://www.ac-119gunships.com) <[www.ac-119gunships.com](http://www.ac-119gunships.com)>

Oklahoma City, OK USA - Saturday, August 07, 2004 at 22:59:26 (EDT)

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If you experience problems posting a message to this guestbook please let me know. I discovered another broken code problem that may have been there for a couple of days. Try your post again if yours didn't make it in the guestbook. Thanks

[Webmaster](mailto:RetCMSgt@aol.com) <[RetCMSgt@aol.com](mailto:RetCMSgt@aol.com)>

Oklahoma City, OK USA - Saturday, August 07, 2004 at 22:56:46 (EDT)

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HI, THIS THE 3TD TIME I E-MAIL YOUR GUESTBOOK. NO RESPOND YET. I WAS STATION WITH 14TH SOS WITH MAINT. INST. SHOP PHAN RANG. I GOT HIT WITH A HAND GRENADE MY LAST DAY THEIR.

ALSO, AM I QUALIFIED TO BE A MEMBER OF THE A C 119 ASSO. MY PH# IS 369-752-1225 3004  
BARKLEY GROVE LOOP BELLINGHAM.WA. 98226 E-MAIL OCOTILLO65@AOL.COM THANK YOU JAMES  
C HOGUE

[hogue.,james.c <ocotillo65@aol.com>](mailto:hogue.,james.c@ocotillo65@aol.com)

Bellingham, wa. USA - Wednesday, August 04, 2004 at 19:13:13 (EDT)

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I'm coming to Dayton pulling a RV can any one give me info. on parks to stay at? Marshall Mullins

[coalmnr@yahoo.com](mailto:coalmnr@yahoo.com)

Marshall Mullins <[coalmnr@yahoo.com](mailto:coalmnr@yahoo.com)>

Henderson, CO. USA - Wednesday, August 04, 2004 at 13:48:21 (EDT)

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I happened to see this online & thought it appropriate to send in---Sciophobia is the fear of Shadows--I bet there are some folks in Southeast Asia who still suffer from this.

Jenny (James) Bowman <[jennyjbowman@hotmail.com](mailto:jennyjbowman@hotmail.com)>

Dyersburg, TN USA - Wednesday, August 04, 2004 at 10:41:57 (EDT)

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just an old stinger saying hi. from out of the north "mingo" danang 69 71

"mingo" <[jobunck@webtv.net](mailto:jobunck@webtv.net)>

USA - Tuesday, August 03, 2004 at 12:21:23 (EDT)

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Shadow Crew Chief, A1C then, 17th SOS, Nha Trang, Tuy Hoa, Phu Cat, June 69-70; Stinger IO, E-4 Sgt then, 18th SOS, Da Nang & NKP, May 71-72; CMSgt retired May 91. Anyone have contact info on the following fellow Stinger aircrew friends of mine, please forward to me: Robert E. Behrens, Instructor IO, 71-72, CMSgt retired (his e-mail address in a 1998 Guestbook entry not current); Jackie McGinnis, Lead Gunner, Da Nang 71-72, SMSgt retired; Donald Ray Davis, FE, Da Nang & NKP 71-72, MSgt retired. Would love to make contact with these three very good combat brothers/friends of mine. Jackie was our crew's Lead Gunner at Da Nang. "Ray" Davis (heavy gambler at the NKP hootch) was our FE. At Da Nang in the Cave about weekly I used to cook for our crew's enlisted aircrew prior to showtime for intel/mission brief. We were so close, so tight as combat brothers! However, by his role modeling scanning in the firing pattern, whenever he often flew with our crew at Da Nang, Lead Gunner Larry Mersek from California, then a 1st term, 2nd combat tour SSgt, got me & countless other Stinger aircrew back to the land of the Big BX upon tour completion with his superior, seasoned AAA scanning talents & abilities!!! [sorry if my gratitude embarrassed you, Larry! a lot of us are grateful for having flown with you!!!] If you can help me out, please contact me know via my e-mail address mahalo nui loa, aloha mai, Ka'imipono

Pono Jesse Lau <[pono@knology.net](mailto:pono@knology.net)>

Panama City Beach, FL USA - Monday, August 02, 2004 at 23:54:20 (EDT)

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Hi Everybody, This is your secretary, Ray Barradale, coming to you. I would like to extend an invitation to everybody who has not yet made arrangements to join us at the 5th reunion, in Dayton, Ohio. 10-1 thru 10-3. This year means a lot to our ASSOCIATION, we will finally be able to get our names in the history books of the GUNSHIPS, we need your support to make this occasion happen, we are a small association, still growing, do you realize what this means, WE WERE THE BEST OF THE BEST, IN NAM, LAOS, CAMBODIA, THAILAND. Nobody can ever take that from us, show your support for your brothers, & crew members, WHOM WE ALL WENT THROUGH HELL WITH. I know there are people who don't want to come to the reunions because they feel that they don't know anybody, HAVE YOU EVER REALIZED, THAT THE FIRST WAVES WHO FLEW OVER THE POND, BROUGHT THOSE GUNSHIPS INTO NAM, HAD THE RESPONSIBILITY TO TEACH THE FUTURE GUNSHIPERS, WHAT IT WAS ALL ABOUT? WHAT WE WENT THROUGH, WHAT TRIPLE AAA AND SAMS WERE ALL ABOUT, AND HOW TO AVOID THEM, CHRIST, COME AND MEET THE GUY'S YOU HELPED SAVE. We have a real nice 5th reunion coming up on Oct 1st thru the 3rd in Dayton Ohio, do your best to be there... Thanx Ray Barradale, Secretary AC-119 Gunship Association... SEE YA ALL IN DAYTON.

Ray Barradale <[raynsue@ptd.net](mailto:raynsue@ptd.net)>

Albrightsville, PA USA - Saturday, July 31, 2004 at 04:01:07 (EDT)

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HELP!! Hi guys - the Assoc. President has authorized & directed the formation of a AC-119 Gunship Assoc. Awards & Decorations Recovery Program/Board. The distinguished Board Members will be announced at the REUNION.....but they are already hard at work! The Board is developing a "HOW TO" package to be made available to Assoc. Members for recovering lost/missing/not awarded Awards & Decs. IN THE PACKAGE, WE

WANT TO INCLUDE 'SAMPLES' OF APPROVED CREW & INDIVIDUAL AWARDS (ESPECIALLY SUPPORTING WRITEUPS) - WE ARE LOOKING FOR DFC (CREW & INDIV.), AM (SAME), BRONZE STAR MEDAL (MOSTLY MX & SUPPORT TROOPS), AND AFCM (ANY SQUADRON MEMBERS) - Don't send them to me, please E-MAIL me with what you have, sepecially if you have the supporting writeups/documents, IF YOU HAVE WHAT I NEED, I will ask you to mail me a copy.....but e-mail me FIRST. See the NOTE in the Aug. Newsletter on the Program...expect a good presentation at the REUNION - more later - Cheers - Mac  
Steve "mac" Mac Isaac <[NMacisaac@aol.com](mailto:NMacisaac@aol.com)>  
RIO RANCHO, NM USA - Friday, July 23, 2004 at 18:34:35 (EDT)

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bill korte needs help proving he was enjured while serving with the 18th sos.his address is 318 heflin rd.aberdeen n.c. 28315 phone#910 944 4223 he also was known as crippled chicken or spider man.  
Cleo O.Downs MSGT 18TH.SOSml <[mlcodowns@msn.com](mailto:mlcodowns@msn.com)>  
elk grove , ca USA95624 - Thursday, July 22, 2004 at 14:52:25 (EDT)

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I was in the 4413th CCTS 69-70 & 17 SOS 70-71. I am a life member. I was looking at the names of all the members. Notice some the guys I knew that work on the AC 119 GUNSHIPS. THERE NAMES ARE NOT ON THERE. Anyone on the board what theres name & I also have there ssn. To see if you can contact them. And go from there.  
John Barrientos <[Batboy 23p aol](mailto:Batboy 23p aol)>  
Bellflower,, CA USA - Thursday, July 22, 2004 at 12:54:28 (EDT)

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Oh Ho! A public forum on short comings. You shouldn't have started this, maggots. I don't get angry, I get even.  
The Yankee Air Pirate  
OR USA - Thursday, July 22, 2004 at 11:39:26 (EDT)

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Duke. I told you not to pick on Howie. You know how sensitive he is about his short comings. Now he is picking on the gunners. He has lots to pick on, but try to keep his feelings in mind when you do. brothers forever  
Mike Traynor <[mike119guner@juno.com](mailto:mike119guner@juno.com)>  
orchard park , ny USA - Thursday, July 22, 2004 at 10:44:56 (EDT)

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This is a new, permanent e-mail address. Please refer to this for license plate frame orders.  
Lee Kyser <[ac119k@msn.com](mailto:ac119k@msn.com)>  
Lompoc, Ca USA - Thursday, July 22, 2004 at 01:35:08 (EDT)

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Enjoyed rereading the comments in the guest book. Sure brings back memories.  
Bob Leach <[bleachnc@bellsouth.net](mailto:bleachnc@bellsouth.net)>  
Etowah, NC USA - Wednesday, July 21, 2004 at 21:32:32 (EDT)

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There are just as many gun plumbers in the group, too, Duke  
Ollie  
Fairview, or USA - Wednesday, July 21, 2004 at 16:30:47 (EDT)

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I notice a lot of ads for penis enlargements posted on our website. I guess they figured out that there was a lot of navigators in our group. See you in Oct.  
Jerry Snyder <[det1114@verizonmail.com](mailto:det1114@verizonmail.com)>  
Mt. Sinai, NY USA - Tuesday, July 20, 2004 at 18:17:12 (EDT)

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Until further notice, please use this additional e-mail address for ordering the chromed license plate frames. The other address is temporarily down (I hope).  
Lee Kyser <[linvellove@msn.com](mailto:linvellove@msn.com)>  
Lompoc , Ca USA - Sunday, July 18, 2004 at 13:38:02 (EDT)

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Still Trying to chase down the following pilots that I flew with in the 17th (70-71)-Capt Victor Heiner (who I understand got assigned to Dover AFB after TSN)& Capt Jerry Marples. Anyone out there who might have some info on there whereabouts would be greatly appreciated. Not getting any younger & sure would like to locate those two before----- Garry Gourley

Garry Gourley <[gfgourley33@hotmail.com](mailto:gfgourley33@hotmail.com)>  
Corpus Christi, Tx USA - Saturday, July 17, 2004 at 13:33:48 (EDT)

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Update! My entry of earlier this year concerning a new email address is cancelled. I trash-canned cox.net 'cause it was way to expensive. I am back to AOL! This will remain my permanent email address. Wish I could be at the reunion this year, but, looks like I won't be able to make it-AGAIN! A great big HOWDY to all you gunshippers!  
Al Reynolds <[shadow47ag@aol.com](mailto:shadow47ag@aol.com)>  
Las Vegas, NV USA - Thursday, July 15, 2004 at 10:41:35 (EDT)

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Looks like the Guestbook is open again. Thanks for fixing it, Bill. See you all in Dayton. Remember the "Old Men"  
The Yankee Air Pirate  
Fairview, OR USA - Tuesday, July 13, 2004 at 11:53:50 (EDT)

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Didn't even know this existed. Found out about it from VFW Magazine Reunion Page. Debbie & I still together, 2 boys, 3 grandchildren. Looking forward to talking to you.  
Jim Bryant <[jjim3130@cox-internet.com](mailto:jjim3130@cox-internet.com)>  
Greenwood, AR USA - Monday, July 12, 2004 at 11:25:24 (EDT)

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getting closer to Dayton I & my Family are really looking forward to it . See ya all there  
Tom Schroeder <[Jodistom@aol.com](mailto:Jodistom@aol.com)>  
Newalla, OK USA - Monday, July 12, 2004 at 06:57:29 (EDT)

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My name is Hermese Baldrige & I served in the 18th SOS in DaNang as a crew chief. I am looking for the name of the ground crew member that inadvertently walked into a rotating propeller & his fate during night operations in the year 1969 or 1970. If you or anyone you know have information regarding this incident please contact me at [hermesbaldrige@hotmail.com](mailto:hermesbaldrige@hotmail.com). I am also looking for Nicholas Dagonos & Harry J. Schiesser 18th SOS Stinger Ground Crew. Thank You!

I was flying the night this accident happened & it was all over by the time I got on the ground. I don't remember the victims name but I do remember that it happened in late December I've had been working long hours & was just finishing a ground run of the jet engines ( which required that the recip engines be running also) . The ground run had been just finished & they were shutting down the recip when he walked aft into the still spinning prop with the main impact being taken across his forehead. It was a severe injury but I remember that we learned later that he had a good chance for recovery. I pray that this was true. I'm going to post this along with your message on the AC-119.com website in hopes that others will see it & can add to it. Fred Sternenberg  
Fred Sternenberg <[Fredstrn@swbell.net](mailto:Fredstrn@swbell.net)>  
Austin, TX USA - Sunday, July 11, 2004 at 16:36:30 (EDT)

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Greetings to all you reunion-bound Gunshippers!!  
We completed a cross check of the hotel reservation list, with our reunion registration list, today & found *thirty names with "hotel reservations" that do not have reunion registrations*. I wanted to remind everyone that you need to make reunion registrations with me *AND* make hotel reservations directly with the *Hope Hotel* if you plan to stay there. *These are two separate actions*. If you have a hotel reservation *AND HAVE NOT* registered for the reunion, please jump over to the [Reunion Registration](#) page, complete the registration form, & drop it (along with your check) in the mail to me. If you have a question or a special situation, drop me a separate note. Looking forward to seeing you in October. Ron  
Ron Julian <[takitus@email.com](mailto:takitus@email.com)>  
Bellbrook, OH USA - Tuesday, June 29, 2004 at 21:24:04 (EDT)

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We now have c-119 HAT PINS The Cost is \$5.00 Make checks payable to the AC-119 Gunship Association. Mail to Doug Wohlgamuth,2902 Chaney Dr. Ruskin, Fl. 33570  
Doug Wohlgamuth <[busch791@aol.com](mailto:busch791@aol.com)>  
Ruskin, Fl USA - Tuesday, June 29, 2004 at 10:54:16 (EDT)

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I now have 17th & 18th Coffee & Beer Mugs. Cost &10.00 each for either one. Coffee mug is a 12oz, the Beer mug is a 15oz. When these are gone we will go up to a 20oz Beer mug. Make check out to Gus Sininger or AC-

119 Association. Mail to: Gus Sininger ; 206 Tooke Street ; Ft. Walton Bch.; FL., 32547. See you all in Dayton.

Gus

Gus Sininger <[g.sininger](mailto:g.sininger)>

Ft. Walton Bch, FL USA - Thursday, June 24, 2004 at 09:02:17 (EDT)

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Guys, I just received my license plate frames (2) from Lee, & they are awesome. Sure made me feel proud when I put them on my vehicles. I encourage every crew member to purchase one or two. They are well worth the money & it will help the Association.

Tom Morrissey <[TLMorrissey@comcast.net](mailto:TLMorrissey@comcast.net)>

Lansing, MI USA - Wednesday, June 23, 2004 at 19:32:00 (EDT)

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I have two brothers wanting to share rooms. Both have already made the reservations & are non-smokers. If you want to share a room & haven't made reservations, drop me a line or call me at 314-865-0920. Take care

Brothers. See you in a few months. EV

Everett Sprou <[everettsprous@sbcglobal.net](mailto:everettsprous@sbcglobal.net)>

St Louis, MO USA - Monday, June 21, 2004 at 18:26:34 (EDT)

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I was never stationed with or worked with you guys. It was very interesting to see what you were all about.

Thanks for the ride.

Bill Junkins <[pedro71@pedroairrescuechopper.net](mailto:pedro71@pedroairrescuechopper.net)>

Grafton, WI USA - Sunday, June 20, 2004 at 00:26:29 (EDT)

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happy birthday to Mike Ryan, Stinger1 pilot. Don't feel bad Mike. 60 is not old. It is ANCIENT. Most things that old are in a jar on a laboratory shelf or in some stuffy museum. It could be worse. You could be as old as Henderson who was 60 a couple of weeks ago. See you in Oct. Brothers forever

mike traynor <[mike119gunner@juno.com](mailto:mike119gunner@juno.com)>

orchard park, ny USA - Friday, June 18, 2004 at 07:29:23 (EDT)

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I posted a comment back in '01 that needs correction. I was talking about Capt. Tom Hamman, a much-admired Stinger pilot who was tragically killed at Danang as a result of a rocket attack. I mentioned in passing that his daughter, Kirstin (Hamman) Giroux had not been told much about her father. This was a misunderstanding on my part, & I don't want anyone to question the dedication of Tom's widow, Susan Denham, to his memory. Her posting on Tom's page on the Virtual Wall website is sufficient testimony. My only, pathetic excuse is that I really dismissed the Virtual Wall & hardly ever visited that site, since it still doesn't include the names of at least three friends of mine who died during the war & whose names are on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. However, I went back to look up Tom Hamman in 2002 & found some very touching entries under his name. He was a great guy & a great loss to his family, the Air Force, & his country.

Ralph Hitchens <[rmhitchens@netscape.net](mailto:rmhitchens@netscape.net)>

Poolesville, MD USA - Thursday, June 17, 2004 at 09:52:39 (EDT)

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Hi all; I am Capt. Thomas R. Hamman's widow (June 15, 1972, Da Nang, Rocket attack). We have two children, Chad Thomas Hamman & Kirstin Hamman-Giroux & two beautiful grandchildren. Just wanted to say my children & I appreciate your website. Thank you for remembering. Thank you to those who knew him & supported him during that horrible time. Tom was a wonderful guy & he will always live in our hearts.

Susan Denham <[ssndenham@aol.com](mailto:ssndenham@aol.com)>

Kanehoe, HI USA - Thursday, June 17, 2004 at 04:01:24 (EDT)

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Was at Nha Trang the day the 119s arrived. It was brought over to the washrack, it looked quite impressive, but on the other hand it was kind of sad that the ole gooney bird was on the way out.

Dolan Bonner <[vegasray123@earthlink.net](mailto:vegasray123@earthlink.net)>

Vegas, NV USA - Thursday, June 17, 2004 at 01:02:13 (EDT)

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I'd like to take this time & have all of you think about Mike Ryan, our Pilot, as he takes his last flight with ATA airlines this June 19th. Mike was the guy who bought us home safe every night (with a little help from our FE Bobby Holmes hitting his hand once in awhile) during 70-71. He has spent the rest of the time bringing home passengers safely on ATA. Our thoughts go with him as he makes his last flight, hey, that also makes him 60

years old!!! Good luck Mike & fly straight. Give our best to Cheryl as you enter retirement. "Duke" & the guys from Stinger 1.

Jerry Snyder <[det1114@verizonmail.com](mailto:det1114@verizonmail.com)>

Mount Sinai, NY USA - Wednesday, June 16, 2004 at 17:18:28 (EDT)

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Greetings from NJ to ALL gunship compadres. I'm planning to see as many of you as I can handle at WPAFB in Oct. Here's a hart-warming story: I just got off the 'phone with '70 PhuCat "G" Gunner Dan Tompson. His Mom recently passed & as he was cleaning out her stuff discovered a group of original Shadow Gunship business cards he had sent home in a lteter. Excellent condition. Dan is planning to be at the re-union this year. See ya there "use-guys". Mike D

Mike Drzyzga <[michael.drzyzga@roche.com](mailto:michael.drzyzga@roche.com)>

Oak Ridge, NJ USA - Thursday, June 10, 2004 at 20:37:07 (EDT)

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I served at Phan Rang in 1970 in radar maint. I was impressed with some of the pictures I saw of the gunships at work at night; especially the time-delay shots showing a cone-shape of the tracers as the gunship circled the target. I would be interested in receiving some pictures by e-mail if anyone has some. I would also be interested in knowing who the "smarty snoopey" was who zoomed in on me with their spot light as I was walking alone, across an empty field, on my way to work late one night.

troy adams <[tadams64@acadia.net](mailto:tadams64@acadia.net)>

Sullivan, me USA - Thursday, June 10, 2004 at 09:36:18 (EDT)

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There are only 28 chromed AC-119 license plate frames remaining. If you want one prior to the reunion, time is NOT in your favor. However, I do expect to get another order ready for the reunion but they won't be available prior to 1 October. So you best "lao-lao, GI"! \$13.00 delivered by mail. \$10.00 each at the reunion.

Lee <[lnvl@earthlink.net](mailto:lnvl@earthlink.net)>

Lompoc, Ca USA - Sunday, June 06, 2004 at 01:39:19 (EDT)

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to Mike, Dick, Stanley, Bud, Bobbie, Duke, Mike, Toby, & Griff: The check is in the mail, the "Jack" supply has been purchased, & all reservations have been made. See you all in Dayton. Crew 1 is alive & well, but "Who ARE those guys?"

"Ollie"

Fairview, USA - Friday, June 04, 2004 at 11:25:40 (EDT)

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I received a surprise e-mail this morning from Joe Rizzo, an 18th SOS gunner & my best friend while I was at NKP during 70-71. I have searched for Joe for several years in an attempt to reunite with him at one of the reunions but had no luck in contacting him. I believe he was a member of Maj. Paluso's crew. Anyway I just wanted to share this news with the group.

Bruce Abbott <[abbottracing@worldnet.att.net](mailto:abbottracing@worldnet.att.net)>

Canon City, CO USA - Tuesday, June 01, 2004 at 22:34:36 (EDT)

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I want to remember all my fallen & living comrades this weekend & every day. These brave men & women that fought & give their lives for our country, no matter how unpopular the war. They go for their country & God as we did. God bless all our men & women in uniform past & present

Everett Dale Sprous <[everettsprous@sbcglobla.net](mailto:everettsprous@sbcglobla.net)>

St Louis, MO USA - Sunday, May 30, 2004 at 11:57:01 (EDT)

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May all of my Gunship brothers have a safe & enjoyable weekend. Take just a minute out of your time this weekend. To remember all of our brothers that have left us.

Bob La Rosa <[la448@zianet.com](mailto:la448@zianet.com)>

Alamogordo, NM USA - Saturday, May 29, 2004 at 18:52:19 (EDT)

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Happy Memorial Day from a AC119K Gunner(1972-1973).

Tom Honzik <[thomman2000@yahoo.com](mailto:thomman2000@yahoo.com)>

ILL USA - Friday, May 28, 2004 at 14:24:26 (EDT)

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Just wanted to wish all the 119er's out there a safe Memorial Day Weekend. Don't forget those that have given it all for us, be thankful for our safe return & pray for the safe return of those in harms way still today.

Bill Forbes <[wkforbes@verizon.net](mailto:wkforbes@verizon.net)>

Lansdale, Pa USA - Thursday, May 27, 2004 at 21:27:15 (EDT)

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If anyone out there has "Mingo" Marsland's e-mail address or other data please contact me so that i can reach him. "mingo", you out there? contact me, thanks

Jerry Snyder <[det1114@verizonmail.com](mailto:det1114@verizonmail.com)>

Mt Sinai, ny USA - Thursday, May 27, 2004 at 09:00:49 (EDT)

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Bob again. Anyone else remember when the training of the VNAF gunners on the ground unexpectedly fired the mini on the pavement? I was the trainer at the guns, scared the heck out of me. I cant remember who was training in the cockpit? Any one else remember? After that I remember that we were allowed to use 2 diff A/C to train on. We were training 2 diff teams on one A/C. I remember stating that it wasn't a good idea. I do remember the flight line personel hitting the deck!

Bob Helmig <[tudogs@aol.com](mailto:tudogs@aol.com)>

Aiken, SC USA - Friday, May 21, 2004 at 13:32:14 (EDT)

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I was a gunner in '72 & '73, 18SOS. Am VERY PROUD of that duty! Was truly awesome & in the past year I have been writing back & forth with Lee Kyser. Heck of a man! I ordered a couple of those Gunship tag holders from him & just sent him the following letter: Lee, I was on my way to work last night, I work 3rd shift at a local factory. I leave the house about 10:30 our time to be there about 10:50pm. Last night on the way I realized I only had a \$20 bill on me & wasn't about to walk around all night with \$20 from the change machine in my pocket, so I stopped at a gas station & broke the twenty. This put me a few minutes behind so I was in a hurry the rest of the way to work. I take a couple of back roads which lead up to a 4 lane highway about 3 miles from my work place. I was clicking right along, came up to the four lane, made one of those millisecond full stops, turned right & on the 4 lane I was. I got right up to 55mph & the car in the middle lane was an Aiken County Sheriff car. He was doing about 50mph. As I creped past him, he pulled in behind me & followed me for about 3 blocks & on came the BLUE lights. I pulled over properly, turned my dome light on & left both hands on the steering wheel. This has been a practice of mine since the first time I got pulled over in high school. He put the spot light on me, came up to my driver window which was already down, & stated, "If you hadn't seen that I was a squad car, you would have just blown that stop sign back there, wouldn't ya?" My reply was, "No sir, I didn't see that you was a squad car until after I pulled out on the highway, I did make a complete stop though?" He said, "Yes ya did, but you were coming down that side road awfully fast, let me see your license, registration & proof of insurance. Where ya heading?" I said, "Running a little late for work!" "Where do ya work?" "Automatic Switch Company!" "What time ya got to be there?" "11 pm!" He looked at his watch, told me to stay put & he would be right back. He then proceeded to his car, made a check on me, then came back to my window. The next thing he asked was,,,,, "That tag holder you have back there, is it yours or was it on the car when you bought it?" "It is mine, I was a gunner in Nam & have over 150 combat missions. I just put it on today!" He said, "Well Mister Helmig, I just got out of the Marines a few months ago, slow down & have a good night at work!" That AC-119 Gunship tag holder saved my ass! Thanks Lee! bob PS: They teased me at work & said I was just lucky. I told them that the guy KNEW the importance of a GUNSHIP! Proud I am. My wife didn't seem to appreciate this story like I think you will?

Bob Helmig <[tudogs@aol.com](mailto:tudogs@aol.com)>

Aiken , SC USA - Friday, May 21, 2004 at 11:59:02 (EDT)

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Hello everyone, just wanted to let everyone know that we moved & that we have an additional e-mail address, & regular address, [cbscruffy@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cbscruffy@sbcglobal.net) or [cbscruffy@yahoo.com](mailto:cbscruffy@yahoo.com) new address is 3929 Bairnsdale Way Sacramento, CA 95826 new number is 916-366-7699. If any one remembers MSgt William E. Reffner Sr. "Uncle Bill" please get in contact with us, we would love to talk with you all. We have already talked with Gerry "Mingo" Marsland, Jeff Baker & Ron Julian. Please call or email any time. any one who knew him at all.

Bill, Tammy & Catherine Reffner <[cbscruffy@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cbscruffy@sbcglobal.net)>

Sacramento, CA USA - Friday, May 21, 2004 at 02:58:27 (EDT)

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I was a 2Lt Intel Officer with the 17th SOS at Phan Rang Nov 1969-1970. Would like to here from any IN types from that year.

Jose M. Morales <[pepo@thevilleges.net](mailto:pepo@thevilleges.net)>  
Lady Lake, FL USA - Thursday, May 20, 2004 at 20:59:19 (EDT)

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The jdbg.exe virus is a hoax according to my company's Information Services department. I apologize for any inconvenience my emails to you all may have caused. See you all in October.

Howard Reid <[hsreid@earthlink.net](mailto:hsreid@earthlink.net)>  
Fairview, OR USA - Wednesday, May 19, 2004 at 11:36:07 (EDT)

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Well before I became a Stinger pilot I was a A @ E maintenance guy on B-36's & then for some ungodly reason became a pilot on one. I had the greatest privilege of having on my crew a L/C Frank Kappeler (look him up on Google) he was a Doolittle Raider. If one thinks the Iraq prisoner thing is gross--see what happened to the Raiders when they were captured.

dick matzen <[retiredrich@msn.com](mailto:retiredrich@msn.com)>  
tacoma, wa USA - Tuesday, May 18, 2004 at 22:48:26 (EDT)

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Forgot to add..Book in store..immediate shipping, See you guys in Oct.

Marc Brewer <[brewone@lowcountry.com](mailto:brewone@lowcountry.com)>  
USA - Friday, May 14, 2004 at 13:38:17 (EDT)

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Just ordered hardcover edition of "The Shadow Spirit" from Barnes & Noble (Internet) Cost including tax (free shipping) was \$27.97.....Nos 69-70 Danang

Marc Brewer <[brewone@lowcountry.com](mailto:brewone@lowcountry.com)>  
USA - Friday, May 14, 2004 at 13:35:12 (EDT)

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Great to remember the fear the fun & the fellowship.

Perry B. Collins,III (Ben) <[deb\\_collins@yahoo.com](mailto:deb_collins@yahoo.com)>  
Panama City, FL USA - Thursday, May 13, 2004 at 15:01:32 (EDT)

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Its good to see that the Gunship people are still alive & well. Does anybody remember the 6498th BDD out of Da Nang?

Tom Honzik <[thomman2000@yahoo.com](mailto:thomman2000@yahoo.com)>  
ILL USA - Thursday, May 13, 2004 at 10:55:25 (EDT)

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just ordered the book 34.17 hardback or 19.54 paperback = just ordered the book.hardback was 34.17 paperback was 19.54 with s&w of 4.48 on either.it is print on demand so it will take about 3 weeks for receipt.

cleo downs <[mlcodowns@msn.com](mailto:mlcodowns@msn.com)>  
USA - Monday, May 10, 2004 at 18:34:50 (EDT)

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Here's the info on getting "the Shadow Spirit". The hardback is # ISBN 0-4134-4426-1 & the paperback is # ISBN 0-1-4134-4425-3. You can order direct from the publisher, Xlibris, at 1-888-795-4274. Or you can log on to Amazon.com, Borders.com or BarnesandNoble.com good reading brothers, you will enjoy it. EV

Everett Dale Sprous <[everettsprous@sbcglobal.net](mailto:everettsprous@sbcglobal.net)>  
St Louis, MO USA - Monday, May 10, 2004 at 11:28:56 (EDT)

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Hey Stingers, our book is here. It's called "The Shadow Spirit", "Flying Stingers & Buffs in S.E.A.". I got the hardback copy a couple of days ago & just finished reading it. It was great & brought back a lot of memories. Get it, read it & have Larry Fletcher sign it at the Reunion in Dayton. It's our story. Hope to see you all in Dayton. "The Firing Circle" Editor EV

Everett Dale Sprous <[everettsprous@sbcglobal.net](mailto:everettsprous@sbcglobal.net)>  
St Louis, MO USA - Saturday, May 08, 2004 at 17:09:01 (EDT)

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Hey whats up? Looking forward to Dayton hope to see a bunch there . my e-mail has changed so feel free to write often since I included my new address here See ya in OCT.

Tom Schroeder <[Jodistom@aol.com](mailto:Jodistom@aol.com)>  
newalla, OK USA - Saturday, May 08, 2004 at 06:41:42 (EDT)

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To all that responded to my request for information to help with my claim with the VA.... I cant thank you enough for your letters & support. I hope to see & thank you in Dayton in Oct. If I can be of help to any of my brothers don't hesitate to ask. Brothers forever. GOD BLESS AMERICA

Marshall L. Mullins <[coalnmr@yahoo.com](mailto:coalnmr@yahoo.com)>

Henderson, Co USA - Wednesday, May 05, 2004 at 20:28:42 (EDT)

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just an update: yikes I am working for the Army now, but hoping to get back to the AF at Luke AFB very soon. I was one of the crash survivors of Oct. 11,1969 at TSN. Best Regards to you all.

Gale (Pat) Jones <[pj0077@hotmail.com](mailto:pj0077@hotmail.com) or [sensodeciones@yahoo.com](mailto:sensodeciones@yahoo.com)>

Anniston, Al USA - Sunday, May 02, 2004 at 16:37:43 (EDT)

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I have enjoyed reading what everyone has been writing but what happened to the 4th ACS? I know I was there! & I'm sure that I wasnt alone? maybe! from 1966 (sept)to 1967 (sept) also, has anybody ever heard of the 606th? NakhonPhanom Thailand? because I know I was there too. I can't seam to find any reference to any AC-47 gunships from that era.

Sgt. Robert J. Cox <[BHOTCHKISS@rochester.rr.com](mailto:BHOTCHKISS@rochester.rr.com)>

perry, ny USA - Friday, April 30, 2004 at 21:59:12 (EDT)

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A modification to my thought about a license plate. Instead of, or in addition to, the squadron emblems, how about someone making plates with the Association emblem? It's beyond my ability, but there must be one of our brethren who can do it.

Bob Frederick (de debil) <[frederickunltd@yahoo.com](mailto:frederickunltd@yahoo.com)>

Louisville, KY USA - Monday, April 26, 2004 at 18:57:01 (EDT)

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Personal address if you would like to contact me is Ronald Vanlandingham PO Box 792 Sparta,TN. 38583 I was an Engine Tech. in Vietnam in 1969 with the 71st SOS. Would like To hear from anyone that worked with me. 1-931-935-2617 the email address is my sons. HAVE A GREAT DAY

RONALD VANLANDINGHAM <[SPARKLEW@BLOMAND.NET](mailto:SPARKLEW@BLOMAND.NET)>

SPARTA, TN USA - Friday, April 23, 2004 at 14:09:57 (EDT)

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I have a new email address. I would like to hear from anyone I knew or met during my time in support of the Vietnam war. Please contact me a the following email address. Thanks Dave

David O'Mara <[swampridr!@wmconnect.com](mailto:swampridr!@wmconnect.com)>

Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina USA - Monday, April 19, 2004 at 22:48:43 (EDT)

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Lee Kyser has Gunship license plate frames advertised in the Firing Circle. I bought one, very nicely done. It looks great on my car. What we need now is for some artistic soul to make up license plates, maybe with the squadron logo on it, for those of us whose states require only one plate. Just a thought, your mileage may vary.

Bob Frederick (de debil) <[frederickunltd@yahoo.com](mailto:frederickunltd@yahoo.com)>

Louisville, KY USA - Wednesday, April 14, 2004 at 15:27:01 (EDT)

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Ev & Wayne, Thanks for your research. Have corresponded with Bud & should hear from Dick today. Thanks for getting their addresses to me so quickly.

The Yankee Air Pirate <[hsreid@earthlink.net](mailto:hsreid@earthlink.net)>

Fairview, OR USA - Wednesday, April 14, 2004 at 11:41:49 (EDT)

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Hi Gunship family. I am sending out the new issue of "The Firing Circle". I am sending it to all the email addresses first, then by snail mail. If you can not open it on your PC, I will mail it. It is very important that I have current email I mail addresses. This is the issue with the Dayton Reunion info, so we want to make sure everyone receives it. If you don't get it by May 1, please contact me.

everett sprous <[everettsprous@sbcglobal.net](mailto:everettsprous@sbcglobal.net)>

st louis, mo USA - Tuesday, April 13, 2004 at 20:42:10 (EDT)

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Any Stinger have an email address for John (Dick) Henderson &/or "Bud" Donaldson? Dick was our copilot & Bud was our NOS at Danang. Trying to get them to be with the rest of us in Dayton. We get them there & we'll have the whole crew there. Please help, my brothers.

Howard Reid <[hsreid@earthlink.net](mailto:hsreid@earthlink.net)>  
Fairview, OR USA - Tuesday, April 13, 2004 at 12:36:31 (EDT)

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Well then. If Ollie & de Debil goin to be on site, & all the # One Crew already committed - we just need to get Dick there - , & Jack appears to on the agenda, Stanley is starting to wonder about 'the fine kettle of fish you're goin to get us into, Ollie'. Oh yeah, & de Debil did make me do it!!! I'm there too. Stanley  
Gary Hitzemann <[ghitzemann@direcway.com](mailto:ghitzemann@direcway.com)>  
USA - Sunday, April 11, 2004 at 18:32:57 (EDT)

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Re: de Debil's most recent email Serria Hotel! Wright Pat had better put in a large supply of Jack!  
OLLIE The Yankee Air Pirate <[hsreid@earthlink.net](mailto:hsreid@earthlink.net)>  
Fairview, OR USA - Thursday, April 08, 2004 at 11:53:23 (EDT)

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Ollie, Stan, Butch, Sundance, & any & all other miscreants: Be forewarned that unlike last year, you will not be able to slander me with no fear of retribution, as I finally got my vacation time lined up & I WILL be at the reunion to protect my reputation. de Debil  
Bob Frederick <[frederickunltd@yahoo.com](mailto:frederickunltd@yahoo.com)>  
Louisville, KY USA - Wednesday, April 07, 2004 at 20:59:58 (EDT)

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I really enjoyed visiting your site & reading all the stories & history. I am retired USAFR Combat Comm, & my dad is a retired infantryman & growing up I always remembered the stories he told me of the Gunships he saw flying & raining terror in vietnam. He even built me a "Puff" gunship model when I was a kid. I'll tell him to check it out.  
Ted Salmon Jr. <[ted\\_salmon@yahoo.com](mailto:ted_salmon@yahoo.com)>  
Mililani, HI USA - Tuesday, April 06, 2004 at 22:50:09 (EDT)

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Hello Everyone, I was with the 17th S.O.S. as a gunner in 1969-70 stationed at "C Flight" in Ton Son Nhut. I originally came over as a gunner on AC-47's in August of 69 at NhaTrang A.B.& became misplaced with about 10 other guys when the Air Force gave the AC-47's to the V.N.A.F. This happened around September/October time frame & we ended up working in the Mini-Gun Shop at both NhaTrang & Phan Rang for several months before finally getting back to what we all volunteered to come over to Nam for & that was to be on flying status! If there are any of you guys out there that remember me & also went thru the same experiences of being the "misplaced ones", please E-mail me. I already sent my registration in for the 2004 Reunion & God willing, plan on being there to rekindle some friendships & memories! This will be my first reunion that I've been able to attend.  
Thank you! Smitty  
Donald H. Smith <[smittyselfridge@hotmail.com](mailto:smittyselfridge@hotmail.com)>  
Richmond, Mi USA - Saturday, April 03, 2004 at 13:10:05 (EST)

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USAFR means USAF Reserve not USAF Regular. Regulars never went by USAFR they just use USAF. Just thought you's like to know.  
A Reservist  
CA USA - Friday, March 26, 2004 at 08:54:41 (EST)

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As those of you look forward to another reunion & opportunity to again share experiences & friendships, for those of us long grieving for our loved ones who served among you, those killed in crashes of that Gunship, & perhaps others grieving for their loves ones since having passed away, these are words of solace long having sustained me, & I share these sentiments written by James Whitcomb Riley, "Away." I cannot say, & I will not say.. That he is dead. He is just away! With a cheery smile & a wave of the hand, He has wandered into an unknown land And left us dreaming how very fair It needs must be since he lingers there, And you-oh you, who the wildest yearn For the old time step & the glad return Think of him faring on, as dear In the love of There, as the love of Here Think of him still as the same, I say, He is not dead-he is just away. Since Major Mo Alves USAFR is not here to "swap" stories, I am his historian & it is with chagrin that I noted errors in his very distinguished biography posted on this website, a Regular Air Force officer, not a "Reserve," not at Wright Patterson Air Force Base, but Minuteman, AF Space & Missiles Systems at Norton AFB in San Bernardino, where he was a Program Director in Re-entry, seated there at his desk. And on assignment in the 17th SOS, appointed also as "Funding Officer," by Col. Buckley, he joked he wanted to be "fun officer." While in his capacity he was responsible for scrounging up requirements for the tenant organization, he took great pleasure & pride in additionally securing those amenities

as TVs, furniture, & the foods & beverages for picnics & such .. I contribute this information previously supplied ..  
Teddi Alves <[TeddiAlves@aol.com](mailto:TeddiAlves@aol.com)>  
Huntington Beach, CA USA - Thursday, March 25, 2004 at 14:57:39 (EST)

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Remember the C119 flight to the remote AC&W Cape Newenham? Was told If the plane goes down get out quick as the door would be straight up. If You have been Alaska Remote check out  
[www.msnusers.com/capenewenham](http://www.msnusers.com/capenewenham)  
[Bob workman <w148@hotmail.com>](mailto:w148@hotmail.com)  
USA - Wednesday, March 24, 2004 at 05:56:22 (EST)

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Just wanted to thank everyone who was at the breakfast on the 21March2004, in Fairfield. We all had a blast, & we look forward to meeting with all of you again. Until next time from out of the west, low & slow the Reffners  
Bill, Tammy & Catherine Reffner <[cbscruffy@yahoo.com](mailto:cbscruffy@yahoo.com)>  
Fair Oaks, CA USA - Tuesday, March 23, 2004 at 01:48:26 (EST)

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I an looking for anyone that can substantiate the 1972 rocket attack that took out the px at DaNang. I was in the 18SOS as N.C.O.I C. of Life Support. This info. is needed for VA.clam that I have. Also info of the death of Capt Hamman that was killed by rocket attack in June of '72 My e-mail- [coalmnr@yahoo.com](mailto:coalmnr@yahoo.com) any help would be appreciated. Marshall L. Mullins (SSgt Mullins 18SOS '72 GOD BLESS AMERICA  
Marshall L. Mullins <[coalmnr@yahoo.com](mailto:coalmnr@yahoo.com)>  
Henderson, Co USA - Sunday, March 21, 2004 at 14:44:14 (EST)

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Thank you to the AC-119 gunship association. & thank you to who ever got the names for the TSgt Bill Reffner & Crew's picture. If any one has any information on anyone in the picture or if anyone served with William E. Reffner Sr. "Uncle Bill" please contact us. We are searching for anyone who served with him. Any help is greatly appreciated. From out of the west going low & slow, the Reffners  
Bill, Tammy & Catherine Reffner <[cbscruffy@yahoo.com](mailto:cbscruffy@yahoo.com)>  
Fair Oaks, CA USA - Saturday, March 20, 2004 at 02:21:33 (EST)

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I'm trying to get some folks together for the Dayton reunion, I was at Phan Rang MAR '70-'71. Working on Dave Voisey, Bill Zito, Mike Drzyzga to join me there. Wish I could remember more names. Anyone remember any of us, please contact me so we can re-unite!  
[Rod Friese <frieserod@aol.com>](mailto:frieserod@aol.com)  
Marietta, GA USA - Friday, March 19, 2004 at 23:10:23 (EST)

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I WAS STATIONED IN KORAT AND NKP 70-71. I WAS A 43251 ENGINE MECHANIC . DOES ANY ONE REMEMBER THE DAY WE PULLED OIL PRESSURE RELIEF VALVE AND DUMPED 20 GALLONS OF OIL ON RAMP THE CHIEF BROUGHT US A PICKUP LOAD OF SPEEDY DRY . THOSE WERE SOME GOOD TIMES AND BAD . I WAS THERE THE NIGHT THEY FRAGGED THE NCO CLUB. I WAS IN THE BASE THEATER WATCHING TORA TORA TORA, EVERY TIME I WATCH THE MOVIE IT BRINGS BACK THE MEMORY OF THAT NIGHT. DOES ANYBODY KNOW THE WHEREABOUTS OF DOUG WHEELER OR ROBERT E. BURNS? LIKE TO HEAR FROM ANYBODY FROM THE RECIEP SHOP.  
[BRUCE G. GILL <bgill66@plantel.net>](mailto:bgill66@plantel.net)  
FITZGERALD, GA USA - Tuesday, March 16, 2004 at 22:24:07 (EST)

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Anyone know where Jerry Touhy is these days? He was a maintainer at Danang with the 18th in 72. I saw him at Andrews about 10 years ago, but have lost touch with him. It would be great if more of us maintainers could make the reunion. If you're out there Jerry give me a shout.  
[Jay Smith <jaycsmith@aol.com>](mailto:jaycsmith@aol.com)  
clinton, md USA - Friday, March 12, 2004 at 13:33:02 (EST)

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Oops, forgot. The crew called themselves "Richardson's Raiders" AC Major K Richardson P 1st Lt C Scott N Capt M Dykes FE TSgt R Niffeneger AG SSgt F Devlin AG SSgt R Lewis LM Sgt T Campbell These names are on the mug. It is brass & easy to identify to the person/s who own it. Cheers, Jester  
[Ron Smith <ron@kku.ac.th>](mailto:ron@kku.ac.th)  
khon kaen, thailand - Friday, March 12, 2004 at 12:24:19 (EST)

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I have a cup that belongs to a Spooky Crew who were flying out of Udorn, Thailand while I was flying out of Lang AHP near Quin Nhon, RVN in 1969. I am now living in Khon Kaen Thailand, some 100 clicks south of Udorn. Help me find the crew. Ron Smith Cobra Jester 129 Assault Helicopter Company Lane Army Heliport An Son, RVN

[Ron Smith <ron@kku.ac.th>](mailto:ron@kku.ac.th)

khon kane, thailand - Friday, March 12, 2004 at 12:14:28 (EST)

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After reading the story from Lee Kyser, I wonder if one of the ac-119's are still around in Southeast Asia (thailand or Vietnam) Probably are scrap by now but who knows, maybe the shadow do.

Jerry Snyder <[det1114@verizonmail.com](mailto:det1114@verizonmail.com)>

Mount Sinai, NY USA - Friday, March 12, 2004 at 12:06:43 (EST)

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I need to get in touch with Major Robert Bokern. If anyone knows his email or address, it would be greatly appreciated if you could pass this on or email me with it. We flew together in 1969-1970 out of Saigon (Ton Son Nhut Airbase 17th SOS Shadow AC-119gunship.) This is extremely important. Anyone that can help it would be greatly appreciated. Larry Carrocci E

Larry P Carrocci <[diggersite@aol.com](mailto:diggersite@aol.com)>

Phoenix, AZ USA - Friday, February 27, 2004 at 10:32:17 (EST)

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Greetings, fellow gunshippers....still looking for "Phillips" from Pennsylvania....both of us 18th SOS Gunners , NKP, then to DaNang, 72-73 where we last saw each other....I know you're out there! God Bless...Willie

William "Willie" Flores <[stingerac119@yahoo.com](mailto:stingerac119@yahoo.com)>

San Diego, Ca USA - Thursday, February 26, 2004 at 10:35:14 (EST)

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I just painted your Stingers from 11/71 to 11/72 at DaNang but in the later days, when they put a couple of your birds on base defense around Rocket City, we slept a lot better. I developed a real affection for gunships. I joined the AF Reserve when I went back to college. I was a FLIR operator on AC-130A Spectres with 711th SOS at Duke Fld. FL from 6/75 to 2/90. Thanks to you guys who shot at things that shot back for getting me home & inspiring me to take on a new challenge.

Don Garretson <[thrasgar@yourlink.net](mailto:thrasgar@yourlink.net)>

Cocoa, FL USA - Monday, February 23, 2004 at 23:43:32 (EST)

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For those of you who are interested in the remake of "Flight Of The Phoenix" & its current status, please refer to the earlier entry made by Chuck Lunsford (see below). Due to a minor problem, you must click onto his name, rather than the blue e-mail address, in order to access the correct URL. If you still have problems, contact me & I will get the update to you direct.

Lee Kyser <[lnvl@earthlink.net](mailto:lnvl@earthlink.net)>

Lompoc, Ca USA - Wednesday, February 18, 2004 at 20:23:25 (EST)

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He all you Gun Shippers -- click on the Phoenix URL to look at progress on the movie, & an account of the monumental flight of a C-119 from Graybull, Wyo., all the way to Namibia in southwestern Africa. A real accomplishment for a 50 year old airplane, I think all you will agree -- enjoy.

[Chuck Lunsford <sherrychuck@msn.com>](mailto:sherrychuck@msn.com)

Albuquerque, NM USA - Wednesday, February 18, 2004 at 00:05:51 (EST)

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Thanks for the memories. As I looked through the stories of those who flew the AC-119s, I think of the outstanding support you gave us out in the field. I was with the 21st TASS & was at the support base which was used to support the operations during the battle of Dak Seang & Dak Pek. I was a member of the Tac Air Control Team at Carbon Outlaw 64 in 1970 when the SF team asked for support for a troops in contact situation at Dak Pek. Had to really argue to get gunshp support. An AC-119 & a Basketball (flaeship) were finally sent to Dak Pek (Don't remember the date but think it was in early May, just before we went into Cambodia). Your guns & the flares were a life saver that night for sure. Shortly after that particular battle I was sent back to join my TACP at Pleiku for the Cambodian Insertion. Thanks for your continuous efforts to support us on the ground. Bob V.

bob veigel <[rveigel@cox.net](mailto:rveigel@cox.net)>

USA - Sunday, February 15, 2004 at 23:15:18 (EST)

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-- Hey all you Gun Ship types -- take a look at the URL <http://home.centurytel.net/sha/phoenixhome.html> Some information on the C-119s being used for the current re-make of "The Flight of the Phoenix" at 20th Century Fox. The aircraft being used for aerial photography of a flying C-119, N15501, was flown from Graybull, WY, to Namibia where the film is being shot. Quite a feat for one of the old Boxcars. For those of you who don't know me, I flew as a radio operator in 6 of the Stingers, before they were Stingers, hauling freight back in the late '50s.  
Chuck Lunsford

[Chuck Lunsford <sherrychuck@msn.com>](mailto:sherrychuck@msn.com)

Albuquerque, NM USA - Sunday, February 15, 2004 at 22:45:48 (EST)

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Thanks, Lee Kyser for the update on "flight of the phoenix" If you haven't received it or read it, it's worth the time.

Jerry Snyder [det1114@verizonmail.com](mailto:det1114@verizonmail.com)

Mt Sinai, ny USA - Sunday, February 15, 2004 at 10:02:31 (EST)

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Thanks to the Web Master for getting the 20mm pin on the website. the pins are a silver color with a black border. my email address is Mike.Traynor@genmills.com. I think you have to use caps on the first letters of my name. my home email is mike119gunner@juno.com you can send your requests to either address & I will get them out for you. Stinger1 I have ours set aside & will bring them to the reunion in oct. see everybody there & thanks again Bill

mike traynor [Mike.Traynor@genmills.com](mailto:Mike.Traynor@genmills.com)

orchard park, ny USA - Thursday, February 12, 2004 at 06:47:15 (EST)

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In response to Chris Fielder-- Sgt Clyde Alloway was a crewmember assigned to the 18 SOS Detachment A at Danang AB in early 1970. I was the commander of that detachment at that time. I knew Sgt Alloway very well & considered him to be one of the best soldiers I have known. We lost Sgt. Allowaay when he was forced to bail out with the rest of his crew over the south China sea just off the coast of Danang in early 1970. We know that the bailout was succssful--we had raio contact with him in the water--but were not able to recover him. I still pray for Clyde. I never knew his family--but Sgt. Pete Chamberlain contacted me last year & has their adderss. His address is petec@pyramid3.net Best Regards, Fred Sternenberg Ltc. Ret USAF Fredstrn@swbell.net

fred Sternenberg [Fredstrn@swbell.net](mailto:Fredstrn@swbell.net)

Austin, TX USA - Monday, February 02, 2004 at 20:13:55 (EST)

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Hello Brothers, would someone please refresh my memory as to what a three-ring-strobe is & how it was originated. Thank you

Dan McDuffie [gunnerdan3@hotmail.com](mailto:gunnerdan3@hotmail.com)

Laurel, MS USA - Sunday, February 01, 2004 at 15:44:16 (EST)

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I am looking for the family of Clyde D. Alloway who was shot down in Vietnam. I have a pow bracelet with his name on it & would like to give it to them as I am unable to wear it due to some unusual circumstances. I also have a photograph & a rubbing of his name from the Vietnam Memorial Wall that they can have if they do not have one. Even though I did not know Clyde, I wore his bracelet constantly, wondering what he looked like, what kind of person he was & what he did when not flying. I can only wonder. Thank you.

Chris Fiedler [mallardfan@mchsi.com](mailto:mallardfan@mchsi.com)

Milan, IL USA - Sunday, February 01, 2004 at 01:36:45 (EST)

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Excellent website. Thank you to everyone who served & sacrificed so much for so many. I am truly grateful.

Eddie Bowen [captsquurrel@msn.com](mailto:captsquurrel@msn.com)

Las Vegas, nv USA - Friday, January 30, 2004 at 15:29:05 (EST)

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Hi all, just wanted to let you know that my son Tony has returned to American soil after 12months in Iraq. I went to Ft Bragg & welcomed him home, it was truly an emotional moment. Thanks to all who dropped him a letter while he was deployed, that meant a lot to me. My other son is due home from his deployment in Afganistan this April, I can't wait. Hope all is well with everyone, take care. Your Stinger Friend, Donna

Donna Crews [donna.crews@hurlburt.af.mil](mailto:donna.crews@hurlburt.af.mil)

Ft Walton Beach, FL USA - Thursday, January 29, 2004 at 16:48:27 (EST)

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Hi all, I just made my reservation for the Reunion at the Hope Hotel. The cost was 75.00 + 7.50 Tax per day. They have rooms with one queen bed or two double beds. I wouldn't waste any time getting yours in as I feel this is going to be one of the biggest turn outs yet

Everett Dale Sprous <[edspro@juno.com](mailto:edspro@juno.com)>

St Louis, MO USA - Wednesday, January 28, 2004 at 12:35:37 (EST)

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I'm trying to locate members of the family of Maj. Charles Blake (deceased). My family & his were stationed together at Elemendorf in the early 50's. The last time I saw him was at McClellan AFB when he was enroute to Vietnam to join an AC-119 outfit sometime around 1968-69. I know that he returned to the CONUS & retired in Texas. I'm pretty sure that his wife is also deceased, but would like to confirm this &, if possible, reach his children. I'm also the webmaster for the 505th Tac Control Group website. The 505th "owned" the air traffic control &, for awhile at least, FAC's in SEA.

[Ken Kimbrough](mailto:Ken.Kimbrough@webmaster@squawk-flash.org) <[webmaster@squawk-flash.org](mailto:webmaster@squawk-flash.org)>

Marietta, GA USA - Sunday, January 25, 2004 at 14:45:44 (EST)

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Guys, The registration form has been posted on the Reunion Information page. You can now officially register for this year's Reunion V in Dayton, Ohio. Check the Reunion page for the latest reunion V information. This will be a special reunion. Not only because it will be our fifth (did I say fifth? Now you guys have something else to drink to!) anniversary, but it will be a unique experience for all of us involved with the AC-119 gunship as we present our piece of the missing gunship puzzle to the Air Force Museum. I look forward to seeing all of you this October as we "dine among the airplanes." It will be a grand time. Cheers, your web miester

[Bill Petrie](mailto:Bill.Petrie@RetCMSgt@aol.com) <[RetCMSgt@aol.com](mailto:RetCMSgt@aol.com)>

Oklahoma City, OK USA - Wednesday, January 21, 2004 at 21:05:38 (EST)

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The Debil has thrown down the gauntlet & had "made me do this!" He has missed the last 2 reunions. Is it because he can't take the heat in the kitchen, can't live up to his former liver killing reputation? Yes, Bob, this is a challenge. Sure hope you'll be at Dayton. I've got my plane ticket already & am starting to lay in a supply of "the juice of the barley." Fly safe my brother!

OLLIE

Fairview, OR USA - Wednesday, January 21, 2004 at 10:56:37 (EST)

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Anyone headed back to The Wall this year? I am heading back with Rolling Thunder from California. I will be leaving a bit later, but doesn't take Beamers long to catch HOGS. Would like to see some of the brothers back there. Anyone know where I can get a 20 SOS & a 18 SOS patch?

Phil Fielder <[pwfielder@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pwfielder@sbcglobal.net)>

San Jose, CA USA - Monday, January 19, 2004 at 21:14:16 (EST)

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I served as a lead gunner on AC-119K's in 1969 & 70 with Captains Maxheimer (pilot) & Tiplady (co-pilot). I noticed that Dom & Ray-Ray have entered this site a long time ago. Would like to see about what is happening with our old crew. Lots of years have past & it is about time to check in before we all check out.

Phil Fielder <[pwfielder@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pwfielder@sbcglobal.net)>

San Jose, CA USA - Monday, January 19, 2004 at 21:09:17 (EST)

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any defent date or place on 04 reunion. place meaning acomadations?

cleo downs <[mlcodowns@msn.com](mailto:mlcodowns@msn.com)>

USA - Sunday, January 18, 2004 at 15:33:13 (EST)

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Bob McGarry...Rest assured that if Ollie is involved in ANY way, there will be prodigious quantities of liquid refreshments consumed.

Bob Frederick <[frederickunltd@yahoo.com](mailto:frederickunltd@yahoo.com)>

Louisville, KY USA - Sunday, January 18, 2004 at 13:20:47 (EST)

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Rumor has it that a BBQ is being planned at the hotel for Sunday evening. Hope so, that would be a good time for sippin' & lyin'(telling war stories). I'll be there, hopefully with the remains of Crew 1.

Yankee Air Pirate

USA - Friday, January 16, 2004 at 19:25:06 (EST)



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Howie, "drinking comes to mind" as for what to do. Right Fletch? What else would a gunner think of?  
Bob MGarry <[spooky1969@aol.com](mailto:spooky1969@aol.com)>  
Ma USA - Thursday, January 15, 2004 at 00:23:01 (EST)

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sorry that didnt come out right...it was supposed to say 'kinda ironic..thanks for the info Mr. Kennedy"  
adrein leavitt  
USA - Wednesday, January 14, 2004 at 23:15:02 (EST)

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Just signed on to see who has visited the site of late, & to let you know I have a new email address. The old one thru AOL no longer exists! Hope everyone had a great holiday season. Hope to be at this year's reunion. Maybe I can finally make it to one!  
Al Reynolds <[shadow47ag@cox.net](mailto:shadow47ag@cox.net)>  
Las Vegas, NV USA - Tuesday, January 13, 2004 at 14:00:25 (EST)

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I'm with Howie. The Sunday night party seems to be the most fun of all. By then even the newest members have someone to visit with.  
Johnny M Higgins <[jmhiggins@alltel.net](mailto:jmhiggins@alltel.net)>  
Little Rock, AR USA - Tuesday, January 13, 2004 at 09:55:39 (EST)

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Are there any plans for Sunday after golf or evening activities at the reunion.  
Howard Reid <[hsreid@earthlink.net](mailto:hsreid@earthlink.net)>  
Fairview, OR USA - Monday, January 12, 2004 at 18:27:20 (EST)

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I was reading Mr Kennedy's comment about CLL & it is ironic that my dad (SMSGT Von Leavitt) used to say he was never sure about thw agent orange concept as he was just fine.....yet he died at 60 from CLL.....kinda thanks for the info Mr Kennedy.  
Adrein Leavitt <[aleavitt2085@earthlink.net](mailto:aleavitt2085@earthlink.net)>  
FT Bragg, USA - Saturday, January 10, 2004 at 15:00:50 (EST)

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49 of the 100 chromed AC-119 Gunships license plate frames have been sold. If you want to order a frame, or if you want to view the image, contact me at either of the following addresses. [linvel@earthlink.net](mailto:linvel@earthlink.net) or [lnvl@earthlink.net](mailto:lnvl@earthlink.net)  
Lee Kyser <[linvel@earthlink.net](mailto:linvel@earthlink.net)>  
Lompoc, Ca USA - Thursday, January 08, 2004 at 22:54:20 (EST) 4 at 22:54:20 (EST)