

MANCHU DRAGON TALES



NINTH INFANTRY REGIMENT (Manchu) Association U.S. Army

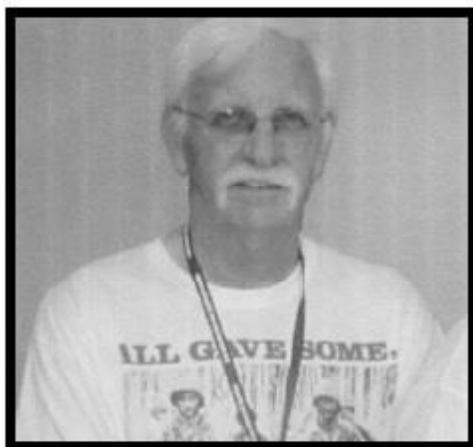


ISSUE NO. 53 September, 2017

www.manchuassociation.org

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COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT



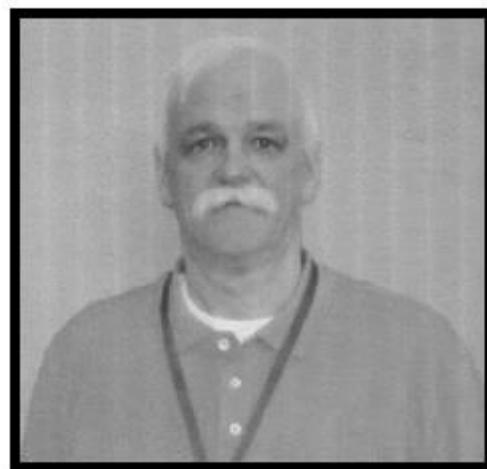
Hello Manchus, Another reunion is approaching. I know that it will be a great time in Washington D.C. As most of you know I will not be attending this year. My 50th high school class reunion is at the same time. Chuck Groff and Ron Price will be filling in for me. I know that they will do a good job.

Our country is in a questionable time with North Korea. Hopefully this will not be escalated any more than what is going on now. Most of us have served in South Korea and I think we all look at it differently than most people. We need to pray for our leaders that they make the right decisions.

Have a good time in D.C. and represent the 9th in a Manchu way.

Keep Up The Fire!

COMMENTS AND UPDATES FROM THE SECRETARY



Hello again,

This issue will honor some of our Korean War members that distinguished themselves in battle with the Ninth Infantry Regiment. We are pleased to acknowledge their sacrifices.

Also we are proud to acknowledge our two Medal of Honor winners, although they didn't get the Medal of Honor in the Ninth they served with, they served the ninth at a later date.

I hope you enjoy reading about these members.

Keep up the Fire!

DECORATED UNITED STATES MILITARY VETERAN

We have also added this to our Contributions page at this website link: www.manchuassociation.org/contributions.html

CAPT Rolfe L. Hillman, Jr 9th Inf

Here is my father's career as I remember it:

Graduated USMA-West Point Class of 1945

1945-48 - Occupation duty in Japan — 27th Inf Regt "Wolfhounds"

1948-50 - Heavy Mortar Company, 9th U.S. Infantry Regiment/2ID — Fort Lewis, WASH

1950-51: Korean War: Company Commander/Heavy Mortar Company, 9th U.S. Infantry Regiment/2ID — Pusan Perimeter

- Counter-offensive

North Korea" - CHICOM November offensive

-recovery time South Korea in 1951,, 9th Inf Regt/Hdq Company

1951-53- US Infantry School - Fort Benning, GA..as student/instructor

1953-55 - Aide-to-Camp- Commanding General US Occupation Forces/Austria,, Salzburg,Austria

1955-56-Aide-to-Camp- Commanding General Vth Army Corps,, Fort Sheridan, ILL

1956-57 - Command and Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, KANS

1957-59 - 6th U.S. Infantry Regiment/1st AD - Fort Polk, LA

1959-60- "Special Weapons Office"...Davey Crockett missile & SS-11 anti-tank missile- Fort Benning, GA

1960-62- Personnel Office, US Infantry School, Fort Benning, GA

1962 - Army Language School, Presidio of Monterey, CALF

1962-63 - Advisor to South Vietnamese Ranger Battalion then South Viet Nam's 22nd Infantry

Division...MAAG- Saigon, South VietNam

1963-64 Army War College - Carlisle Barracks, PENN

1964-66 - The Pentagon ..DCOSOPS

1966-67 - Special Military Assistant to GEN Maxwell Taylor, The White House

1967-68 - Brigade Commander, Tiger Brigade/2nd AD - Fort Hood, TEX

1968-69 - Chief of Staff- 2nd AD - Fort Hood, TEX

1969-72 - Staff & Faculty (Strategic Plans Office) US Army War College, Carlisle Barracks, PENN

1972—Army Attache School,, Rosslyn,VA

1972 - Retired from USA

1986-95 - 2nd ID Historian — WW1

As far as I can remember, and not having my father's official military records, here are his medals:

Combat Infantryman Badge

Silver Star

Silver Star

Bronze Star with V

Legion of Merit x 2

various campaign ..location. ribbons

White House service badge

Retired as O-6 after 27 years.

Hope this helps.

Keep up the Fire!

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PHOTOS: CAPT Rolfe L. Hillman, Jr 9th Inf



DECORATED UNITED STATES MILITARY VETERAN

Robert L. Johnson 1951

Cullum No. 18151 • Dec 11, 2007 • Died in Frederick, IL
Interred in Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA



Published at the following public internet site: <https://externalapps.westpointaog.org/Memorials/Article/18151>
We have also added this to our Contributions page at this website link: www.manchuassociation.org/contributions.html



Robert Llyod Johnson was born in Browning, IL, the son of a proud and industrious farmer. His early education was the product of a one room schoolhouse. As valedictorian of his high school class, he set his sites on service to his country: attending Marion Institute in Alabama in preparation for West Point.

There was no doubt in his mind that he was devoted to become an infantryman. When he graduated in the top third of his class at West Point, his choice of branch was set. He married Giugi Gagliano of New York City on December 1951 upon completion the of jump school. After basic training at Ft. Benning, he chose Airborne Infantry with the 82nd Airborne Division at Ft. Bragg. He spent six months in the 505 PIR, then fought with the Second Division, Ninth Infantry Regiment, in Korea. He was in command of L

Company when an intense overnight battle on Mar 17, 1953 ensued, leaving only twelve men to walk off the hill at daybreak by their own strength. All others were either killed or wounded.

Bob was seriously wounded in the skirmish and evacuated through Tokyo to Letterman Army Hospital at the Presidio in San Francisco. He endured two amputations on the same leg, necessitating a year of rehabilitation. He was not one to take what came his way as remarkable and took life in stride. Indeed, astride a mischievous sense of humor and acceptance! His classmate, Henry Often, who lost his right leg., and he, became "cause celebre" when they entertained the staff with antics, like marching in step wearing red knee socks, as they learned to maneuver in their new prostheses. Later, they gathered neighbors' children to watch them crack nuts with, and drive tacks into their wooden legs. Bob could pivot his lower leg up from the knee joint and balance a glass atop the sole of his shoe. At a pub in Ireland, he was the star of the show when he balanced his Guinness to the astonishment of the entire assembled group.

Bob was fortunate to remain on active duty, making him the first above-the-knee amputee since the Civil War to do so. He returned to West Point to teach in the Math Department, and was then was assigned to Ft. Benning for the Advanced Course. At the University of Arizona, he earned graduate degrees in Aerospace Engineering and Aerospace Physics. When a classmate asked

At Ft. Bliss, he was assigned to the Air Defense Development Agency, where he worked on the Patriot anti-aircraft and antimissile systems and worked on improving the Hawk systems. He remarked that, "It was an odd but challenging world for a onelegged Infantry Officer." A relaxing year at Ft. Leavenworth Command & General Staff College was followed by a move with the family to Melbourne, Australia. There, he completed a three year tour as Research and Development Liaison Officer, to the Quadripartite Standardization Group attached to the Department of Supply.

Returning to CONUS, he served a year with the Office, Research and Development at the Pentagon. After this, he took command of a training battalion at Ft. Leonard Wood. In Vietnam, he served with the Army Concepts Team at Long Binh, followed by an assignment as Deputy Chief of Staff, Theater Army Support Command, Worms, Germany. Finally, he commanded the NATO Support Activity, in Brussels, Belgium, until his retirement in 1975.

As a retired officer, he accepted the role of Honorary Colonel of the Ninth Infantry Manchu Regiment, which brought him close, once more, to his Korean War comrades.

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Along with his wife, Giugi, and four children, Fabienne, Enid, (born at West Point), Peter, and Robert Jr, he returned to his roots and worked as Director of Development at MacMurray College in Jacksonville, IL, and at St. Jude's Home for physically challenged children. As a proud Anglican, he founded St. Clare's Mission in his home town of Rushville.

Bob had the mind of a scientist and the soul of a romantic. He loved poetry and would gather his family to read from the works of one of his favorite poets, James Whitcomb Riley. These sessions instilled in them a sense of things beyond the common, daily world.

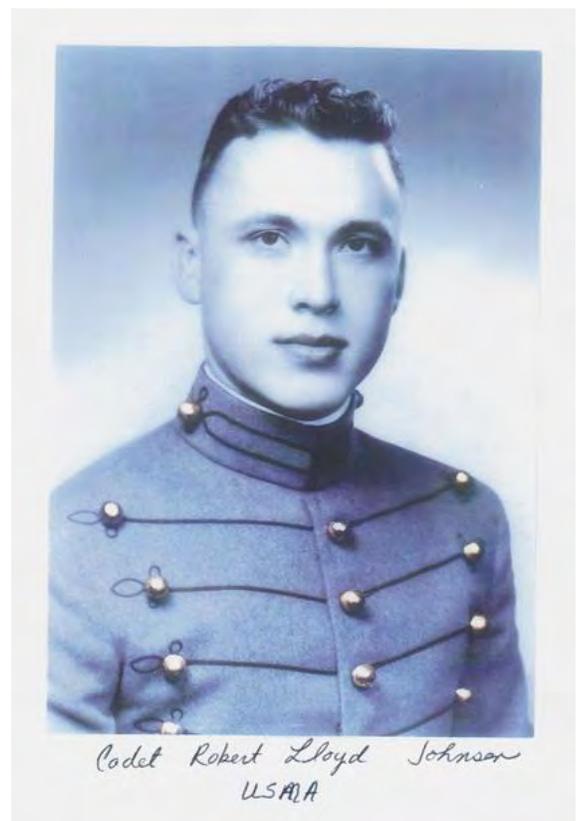
He died at home, surrounded by his extended family, who read from Scripture at his bedside. At the last, he reminded his daughters that his 56th wedding anniversary was four days away and asked that a dozen roses be sent to Giugi, and every year thereafter, as he had done over the years. His wish was granted! His official record says that he died of combat related causes due to tainted blood administered when he lost his leg.

He was buried with full honors at Arlington National Cemetery in the pouring rain. It has been observed that, "It is befitting an Infantryman to say farewell in rain and mud." He now stands, an extraordinary man among many, in the Long Gray Line, on two legs.

Henry Van Dyke wrote, "There is only one way to get ready for immortality and that is to love life and live it bravely, faithfully and cheerfully, as few can." That describes Bob's life as a follower of his Savior Jesus. Bob is survived by his wife Giugi, four children, their spouses, ten grandchildren, and eleven great-grandchildren.

—*The Family & George Gardes (classmates)*

PHOTOS: Col. Robert L. Johnson



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Published at the following public internet site: www.west-point.org/usma1951/18151

We have also added this to our Contributions page at this website link: www.manchuassociation.org/contributions.html

COL Robert Lloyd Johnson USA (Retired)

Cullum: 18151

Class: '51

Cadet Company: H2

Date of Birth: April 28, 1928

Date of Death: December 11, 2007 - [View or Post a Eulogy](#)



COL Johnson was commissioned infantry and completed basic infantry course, airborne and jumpmaster school before his first assignment as platoon leader in B Company, 505th Airborne Infantry Regiment at Fort Bragg, NC. He was reassigned to join B Co., 9th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Div. While on combat patrol in Nov., they captured the first Chinese prisoner taken by the regiment in nine months. He became company commander of L Company in 1953 and served in that capacity until 17 March when the company was engaged in a massive hand-to-hand conflict with three regiments of Chinese. "L" Co., with some support, they held the position, but a great cost in life and limb, to include the COL Johnson's left leg above the knee. A year of hospitalization in Korea, Japan and San Francisco was followed by assignment to the Math Department at West Point.

The necessary disability waivers required for retention on active duty were made possible through the efforts of then Maj. Bernard Rogers, Bn. Cdr. in Korea and later Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He taught the 24th section (last) Plebe math for four years. Bob stated in his 50th USMA reunion year book "Few of our students graduated, but those who did are a real credit to the Academy." After graduate school at Univ. of Arizona with a MS in Space Physics in '61, he was assigned to Air Defense Combat Development Agency at Ft. Bliss, TX. '61-'64 were formative years in Air Defense weaponry and the systems at ADCDA were the basis of those still in service worldwide. The improved

HAWK, the Redeye evolved into the Stinger; the family of vehicular mounted Gatling guns, and the Patriot anti-aircraft and anti-missile systems all integrated into Sophisticated detection, identification, command and control networks - "an odd, but challenging world for a one-legged Infantry Officer!" said COL Johnson.

The COL states he had a relaxing year at C&GSC followed by three years of Quadripartite Standardization Group, home based with Australia's Dept. of Supply in Melbourne. He returned to the office of Research and Development in the Pentagon, then as Bn Cdr of basic training Bn. at Fort Leonard Wood MO. In 1970 he was with the Army Concepts Team in Vietnam, based on Long Binh Post, but with activities throughout South Vietnam. He returned through US to Europe as Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations at Theater Army Support Command, Europe with HQ in Worms, Germany. After two years he was designated as Cdr. NATO Support Activity, in Brussels Belgium.

He reluctantly retired in 1975 to better serve family interests. In 2001, he was Honorary Colonel, 9th Infantry Regiment. He is survived by his wife, Guigi, four children, and ten grandchildren.



COL Johnson Received the following Medals:

Legion of Merit with First Oak Leaf Cluster - Purple Heart - Army Commendation Medal with First Oak Leaf Cluster - United Nations Service Medal - Korean Service Medal - National Defence Service Medal with First Oak Leaf Cluster - Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal - Vietnam Service Medal - Armed Forces Honor Medal (Vietnamese Award) - Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm (Vietnamese Award) - Meritorious Unit Commendation - AGSID Badge - Parachutist Badge - Combat Infantryman Badge - Marksmanship Badge (M-1) - Marksmanship Badge (30 Cal) - 3 Overseas Service Bars

From the 1951 Howitzer:

ROBERT L. JOHNSON H-2

HUNTSVILLE, ILLINOIS 15TH CONGRESSIONAL

On a hot July day in 1947 John flung his mad youth away and strode purposefully through the Grey Walls. After a false start in wrestling he learned to prefer intermurder and the sack, from which he emerged occasionally to wage a losing battle for possession of his "A" pin. A yen for Armored boosted him well above average in academics; his friends will know an emptiness when he leaves.

Wrestling	4	Model Railroad Club	3
Art Club	3	Sergeant	1
French Club	2-1		

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Colonel Robert L. Johnson
US Army Retired

Col. Robert L. Johnson, USA, Ret., 79 of rural Frederick, was born in Browning, IL April 28, 1928 and died at home December 11, 2007. He married Josephine (Giugi) Gagliano December 15, 1951 at West Point, NY. She survives to say "Goodnight, sweet prince." Also surviving are four children: Fabienne (husband Dan) Brush of Naperville, IL, Enid (husband Scott) Ruzicka of Lombard, IL, Peter (wife Sonya) Johnson of LaGrange Highlands, IL, Robert (wife Carolyn) Johnson Jr. of Freeport, IL, one sister, Mary Nell (husband Bide) Thomas of Rushville, IL, one brother, Richard (wife Cleely) Johnson of Ottertail, MN, ten grandchildren and six great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents Charles (Pete) and Freida Johnson, one brother Edward Johnson and several Army brothers.

His valiant military career which spanned twenty eight years included service in the Korea and Vietnam Wars, participation on Army Research and Development Teams that led to military science advancements such as the Patriot Missile, assignment as NATO Support Activity Commander in Europe and a Purple Heart. He graduated from Marion Institute, USMA, University of Arizona and the US Army Command and General Staff College, earning two Bachelors and one Masters Degree. He was a splendid warrior named as the Honorary Colonel of the Ninth Infantry Manchu Regiment and faithful member of St. Clare's Anglican Mission in Rushville, who chaired the Quincy Diocese Capital Campaign Committee.

Worthington Funeral Home
Rushville, Illinois

West Point Graduate



Among the cadets graduating from the United States Military Academy next Tuesday, is Robert L. Johnson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles C. Johnson of Huntsville. An appointee of Representative Robert Chipperfield, Johnson was graduated from Rushville Community high school, and later attended Marion Military institute, prior to entering West Point. Upon graduating he will receive a Bachelor of Science degree, and will be commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Airborne Infantry.

The graduation exercises for the class of 478 this year will be held next Tuesday, and Johnson is one of 27 from Illinois who will be graduated.

Lt. Robert Johnson Seriously Wounded In Korean Action

First Lt. Robert L. Johnson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Johnson, of Huntsville township, was wounded seriously on March 17 while on duty in Korea. He received a mortar wound in the left leg, while serving as acting commander, according to information received by his parents on March



21. He is now in a Tokyo hospital. Young Johnson's wife and daughter, who was born on March 10 reside in San Francisco.

A 1946 graduate of Rushville high school, he attended Marion Military Institute for one year prior to entering the West Point Military Academy, where he graduated in 1951. He received a bachelor degree in science there and was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Airborne Infantry, later receiving his commission as first lieutenant.

Mr. and Mrs. Homer Ellis, of Buenavista township, are Mr. Johnson's maternal grandparents.



*Enroute to Khe Sanh
S. Vietnam Early '71
Capt. Russell is my
cousin part in Australia
Army Combat Development
Team (standing in jeep,*

A Forgotten Face from a Forgotten War

Having visited various museums around the country, there is always something unique that catches my attention; a rifle picked up at the little big horn, or a WWII helmet found in a barn in Normandy. I wonder “If that thing could talk the stories it could tell”. As a collector of Ninth Infantry Regiment artifacts for the last 40 years, you learn a lot about the artifacts and the Regiment’s history. How the item was used, where it was used, and in many cases who used it. I like to feel that each artifact in my collection tells a story. Whether it is a sack coat worn by Pvt. Smith in 1884, or Indianhead patch worn by Col. Kernan at Brest, France during WWII... each one tells you a little bit of the Regiment’s history.

Perhaps some of the most touching artifacts, and dear to one’s heart, are the ones that once belonged to a valiant Manchu who died in the service of our country. This is the story of one such artifact in my collection. A few years back, I came in possession of a West Point Uniform. The uniform once belonged to Edmund Lilly III, who entered the academy in 1946.

Edmund Lilley III (known as ‘Teddy’ to family and friends) was born on May 26th, 1928 in Colon, Panama. His family was living there at the time because his father, Edmund Lilly Jr., was then stationed at Fort Davis, Canal Zone. His father was career army who moved around the world, so as Edmond grew up he became your typical “army brat”, getting his formal education here and there. In January of 1941 he moved to Manila with his family while his father was stationed at Fort McKinley serving with the 57th Infantry Philippine Scouts. In May of 1941 with tension mounting in the Far East, the family was evacuated back to the United States where they moved to Fayetteville, South Carolina, his father’s birthplace. In May of 1942 news came that the Philippines had fallen and his father was now a POW of the Japanese.

Growing up in Fayetteville, Edmund enjoyed hunting, fishing and other outdoor activities. He participated in sports during his high school years. In the Fall of 1945, he entered The Citadel at Charleston, South Carolina. He was a member of St. John’s Episcopal Church and for a time he considered the Episcopal ministry as a career. He then decided he would try for the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. He entered West Point in 1946, where he was a member of Company 1-2. During his term as a Cadet on a trip to Fort Bliss he met his future bride on a blind date, Mary Alma Russ.

On June 6, 1950, Edmund graduated from West Point, and the next day he married Alma. While on honeymoon leave with his lovely new wife, things were starting to take a turn for the worst in Korea. Now a Second Lieutenant in the Army, the young Edmond called his unit the 2nd Infantry Division and notified them of his location. Several days later his leave was canceled and he reported to Fort Lewis, Washington.

By the end of July, Lt. Lilly was assigned to Company B, 9th Infantry and sent to Korea. The entire 2nd Infantry Division was slow arriving in Korea and over the first couple of weeks in August, it entered combat piecemeal fashion. For the 9th Infantry (RCT) and the entire Division things did not look good against what seemed to be unstoppable assaults by enemy troops.

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On September 3rd the 9th RCT, minus the 3rd Battalion, was on an isolated ridge (Hill 209) overlooking the Naktong River in the Yongson Sector. Under a fierce attack by the 2nd, 4th, 9th, 10th North Korean Rifle Divisions and the 14th and 16th Mechanized Division. Under this heavy assault the Regiment was driven from its positions but Lt. Lilly's platoon did not withdraw. To this day it is not known why. One thing is known - that Lt. Lilly performed his duty under very intense automatic weapons fire and explosions! He calmly walked among his men and encouraged them to put up a valiant defense against insurmountable odds. The area was overrun and it would be weeks before the fate of Lt. Lilly and his men would be known. His body was never found. He was twenty-two years old at the time of his death.

According to U.S. Army Korea officials, Sept. 1-15 were the bloodiest 15 days of the war and many of the units stationed along the river suffered similarly heavy casualties in the following hours and days as the enemy seized key defensive positions. In fact, the North Koreans sliced the division in two and broke nearly all communications between headquarters and many frontline units.

Lt. Lilly would remain at his post for the next fifty-three years. It was not until 2003 that his remains were found and returned home. He was awarded the Silver Star and Purple Heart posthumously for heroic actions on that lonely isolated ridge. The Korean War has often been called the "Forgotten War". Perhaps to some it is. Yet to the family and friends of men like Lt. Edmond (Teddy) Lilly III, it will never be a "Forgotten War"! And most important, we must not let it be a forgotten face. On September 3rd, remember Lt. Lilly and the brave men from the 9th Infantry who gave their lives 67 years ago on a forgotten ridge in a forgotten war, lest we forget.

Al Castillo

2nd Lieutenant Edmund
Jones Lilly III in his
1950 class photo at
West Point.



DECORATED UNITED STATES MILITARY VETERAN

Published at the following public internet site: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roger_Donlon

Roger Hugh Charles Donlon (born January 30, 1934) is a former United States Army officer. He is the first person to receive the Medal of Honor in the Vietnam War, as well as the first member of the U.S. Army Special Forces so honored.

Contents

- 1 Early life and education
- 2 Career
 - 2.1 Medal of Honor citation
- 3 See also
- 4 References
- 5 Further reading
- 6 External links

Early life and education

Donlon was born in Saugerties, New York, the eighth child of ten. He attended the New York State College of Forestry at Syracuse University for a year. He joined the United States Air Force in 1953 and was admitted to West Point in 1955, but resigned for personal reasons. He re-enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1958, went to Officer Candidate School, and served as a General's aide. In August 1963 he joined the Special Forces.^[1] He earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Nebraska at Omaha in 1967.^[2]

Career



Donlon (standing at right, at attention) waits to receive his Medal of Honor from U.S. President Lyndon B. Johnson.

In May 1964, Donlon's team was sent to Vietnam where they established an outpost at Nam Dong, about 15 miles (24 km) from the border with Laos.

Early in the morning of July 6, 1964, the base was attacked by a large force of Vietcong. Under Captain Donlon's leadership, the two-battalion attack was repelled. Donlon received the Medal of Honor for his actions.^[3] Donlon later retired at the rank of Colonel.

Donlon was awarded the key to the city of Lexington, Kentucky, by mayor Fred Fugazzi on June 28, 1965.

Roger H.C. Donlon



Birth name	Roger Hugh Charles Donlon
Born	January 30, 1934 Saugerties, New York, U.S.
Allegiance	 United States of America
Service/branch	 U.S. Air Force (1953–1955) U.S. Army (1958–1988)
Years of service	1953–1955 (U.S. Air Force) 1958–1988 (U.S. Army)
Rank	 Colonel
Unit	7th Special Forces Group
Battles/wars	Vietnam War <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Battle of Nam Dong
Awards	 Medal of Honor Purple Heart

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Medal of Honor citation

Rank and organization: Captain, U.S. Army. Place and date: Near Nam Dong, Republic of Vietnam, July 6, 1964. Entered service at: Fort Chaffee, Ark. Born: January 30, 1934, Saugerties, N.Y. G.O. No.: 41, December 17, 1964.

Citation:

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while defending a U.S. military installation against a fierce attack by hostile forces. Capt. Donlon was serving as the commanding officer of the U.S. Army Special Forces Detachment A-726 at Camp Nam Dong when a reinforced Viet Cong battalion suddenly launched a full-scale, predawn attack on the camp. During the violent battle that ensued, lasting 5 hours and resulting in heavy casualties on both sides, Capt. Donlon directed the defense operations in the midst of an enemy barrage of mortar shells, falling grenades, and extremely heavy gunfire. Upon the initial onslaught, he swiftly marshaled his forces and ordered the removal of the needed ammunition from a blazing building. He then dashed through a hail of small arms and exploding hand grenades to abort a breach of the main gate. En route to this position he detected an enemy demolition team of 3 in the proximity of the main gate and quickly annihilated them. Although exposed to the intense grenade attack, he then succeeded in reaching a 60mm mortar position despite sustaining a severe stomach wound as he was within 5 yards of the gun pit. When he discovered that most of the men in this gunpit were also wounded, he completely disregarded his own injury, directed their withdrawal to a location 30 meters away, and again risked his life by remaining behind and covering the movement with the utmost effectiveness. Noticing that his team sergeant was unable to evacuate the gun pit he crawled toward him and, while dragging the fallen soldier out of the gunpit, an enemy mortar exploded and inflicted a wound in Capt. Donlon's left shoulder. Although suffering from multiple wounds, he carried the abandoned 60mm mortar weapon to a new location 30 meters away where he found 3 wounded defenders. After administering first aid and encouragement to these men, he left the weapon with them, headed toward another position, and retrieved a 57mm recoilless rifle. Then with great courage and coolness under fire, he returned to the abandoned gun pit, evacuated ammunition for the 2 weapons, and while crawling and dragging the urgently needed ammunition, received a third wound on his leg by an enemy hand grenade. Despite his critical physical condition, he again crawled 175 meters to an 81mm mortar position and directed firing operations which protected the seriously threatened east sector of the camp. He then moved to an eastern 60mm mortar position and upon determining that the vicious enemy assault had weakened, crawled back to the gun pit with the 60mm mortar, set it up for defensive operations, and turned it over to 2 defenders with minor wounds. Without hesitation, he left this sheltered position, and moved from position to position around the beleaguered perimeter while hurling hand grenades at the enemy and inspiring his men to superhuman effort. As he bravely continued to move around the perimeter, a mortar shell exploded, wounding him in the face and body. As the long awaited daylight brought defeat to the enemy forces and their retreat back to the jungle leaving behind 54 of their dead, many weapons, and grenades, Capt. Donlon immediately reorganized his defenses and administered first aid to the wounded. His dynamic leadership, fortitude, and valiant efforts inspired not only the American personnel but the friendly Vietnamese defenders as well and resulted in the successful defense of the camp. Capt. Donlon's extraordinary heroism, at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty are in the highest traditions of the U.S. Army and reflect great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of his country.^[4]

DECORATED UNITED STATES MILITARY VETERAN

Published at the following public internet site: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Drew_Dennis_Dix

Drew Dennis Dix

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Drew Dennis Dix (born December 14, 1944) is a decorated United States military veteran and retired major in the United States Army. He received the Medal of Honor for his actions in the Vietnam War; he was the first enlisted Special Forces soldier to receive the medal.^[1]

Contents

- 1 Biography
- 2 Medal of Honor citation
- 3 Publications
- 4 See also
- 5 References
- 6 External links

Biography

Dix was born in West Point, New York, and raised in Pueblo, Colorado. He enlisted in the Army at age 18 in 1962, hoping to join the Special Forces. Initially turned down because of his young age, he spent three years serving with the 82nd Airborne Division before being accepted into the Special Forces at the age of 21.^[1] During this time, he served in Operation Power Pack, the US military intervention in the Dominican Republic.

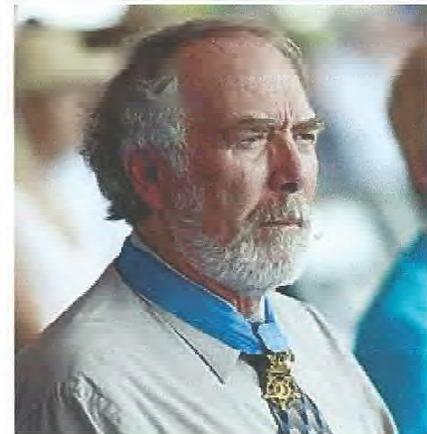
By 1968, he had reached the rank of staff sergeant^[2] and was assigned as a military adviser to the Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) in Chau Phu, South Vietnam, near the Cambodian border. On January 31, 1968, Viet Cong forces attacked Chau Phu in the first days of the Tet Offensive. Throughout that day and the next, Dix led groups of local fighters in rescuing endangered civilians and driving Viet Cong forces out of buildings in the city.^[1]

For these actions, Dix was awarded the Medal of Honor by President Lyndon B. Johnson during a ceremony at the White House on January 19, 1969.^[1] He is one of four Medal of Honor recipients from Pueblo, Colorado, the others being William J. Crawford, Raymond G. Murphy, and Carl L. Sitter.^[3]

Dix later received a direct commission to first lieutenant and retired as a major after 20 years of service,^[1] his last duty assignment was Executive Officer of the 4th Battalion 9th Infantry, 172nd Infantry Brigade (Separate), Fort Wainwright, Alaska (1981-1982).

After leaving the Army, he worked as a security consultant, ran an air service in Alaska, and served as Alaska's deputy commissioner for homeland security.

Drew Dennis Dix



Dix in 2010

Born	December 14, 1944 West Point, New York
Allegiance	United States of America
Service/branch	United States Army
Years of service	1962 – 1982
Rank	Major
Unit	82nd Airborne Division 5th Special Forces Group 172nd Infantry Brigade
Battles/wars	Operation Power Pack Vietnam War
Awards	Medal of Honor Purple Heart Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry

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In 2000, he wrote a memoir about the fight for Chau Phu entitled *The Rescue of River City* (ISBN 978-0970309600).^[4] Since receiving the medal, he has made numerous public speaking engagements. He currently lives in the interior region of Alaska.^[1]

In 2010, Drew Dix co-founded the Center for American Values in Pueblo, Colorado.^[5]

Medal of Honor citation



Dix (far right) and three other men shortly after receiving their Medals of Honor from President Lyndon B. Johnson (center).

The President of the United States in the name of the Congress takes pride in presenting the Medal of Honor to Staff Sergeant Drew Dennis Dix United States Army for service as set forth in the following citation:

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty. SSG. Dix distinguished himself by exceptional heroism while serving as a unit adviser. Two heavily armed Viet Cong battalions attacked the Province capital city of Chau Phu resulting in the complete breakdown and fragmentation of the defenses of the city. SSG. Dix, with a patrol of Vietnamese soldiers, was recalled to assist in the defense of Chau Phu. Learning that a nurse was trapped in a house near the center of the city, SSG. Dix organized a relief force, successfully rescued the nurse, and returned her to the safety of the Tactical Operations Center. Being informed of other trapped civilians within the city, SSG. Dix voluntarily led another force to rescue eight civilian employees located in a building which was under heavy mortar and small-arms fire. SSG. Dix then returned to the center of the city. Upon approaching a building, he was subjected to intense automatic rifle and machinegun fire from an unknown number of Viet Cong. He personally assaulted the building, killing six Viet Cong, and rescuing two Filipinos. The following day SSG. Dix, still on his own volition, assembled a 20-man force and though under intense enemy fire cleared the Viet Cong out of the hotel, theater, and other adjacent buildings within the city. During this portion of the attack, Army Republic of Vietnam soldiers inspired by the heroism and success of SSG. Dix, rallied and commenced firing upon the Viet Cong. SSG. Dix captured 20 prisoners, including a high ranking Viet Cong official. He then attacked enemy troops who had entered the residence of the Deputy Province Chief and was successful in rescuing the official's wife and children. SSG. Dix's personal heroic actions resulted in 14 confirmed Viet Cong killed in action and possibly 25 more, the capture of 20 prisoners, 15 weapons, and the rescue of the 14 United States and free world civilians. The heroism of SSG. Dix was in the highest tradition and reflects great credit upon the U.S. Army.^[2]