

*Lest we forget those from the
1965 East Aurora High Class
who served during the Vietnam
War Era and later*





**VETS at
50th Class Reunion**

Jack Amwoza, Norm Rebenstorf, Jeff Travis behind, Luigi Testone, Dick Elliott, Jeff Buda, Tom Kennedy, Mike DiSantis, Unknown, Ron Jakious, Jim Mathieu, Dan Pugh, Darryl Snyder behind Dan, John Nelson, Dick Marvin, John Miller, Ron Bennett, Dick Lamphere

Rich Adams HS



Name: Rich Adams

Branch: US Army

Trained Military Occupational Specialty (MOS): 11B Infantry

Years of Service: July 1969 – Feb 1971

Final Rank: Spec 4

Final Location: Viet Nam

Other Comments: Volunteered for ranger unit, transferred to helicopter unit as a door gunner on a light observation helicopter (loh) called hunter killer team, 25th division, 3/4 Cav D Troop

Awards: Silver Star Distinguished Flying Cross, Bronze Star, 5 Air Medals

Robert Allen HS



Name: Robert Allen

Branch: US Navy

Trained Military Occupational Specialty (MOS):

Years of Service:

Final Rank:

Final Location: Viet Nam

Other Comments:

,Donald Banks HS



Donald Banks Basic Training



Name: Donald Banks

Branch: US Army

Trained Military Occupational Specialty (MOS):

Years of Service:

Final Rank:

Final Location:

Other Comments such as service history:

Fred Barajas HS



Fred Barajas Military



Name: Fred Barajas

Branch: US Army

Trained Military Occupational Specialty (MOS):

Years of Service:

Final Rank:

Final Location:

Other Comments such as service history:

Alexander Barajas HS



Name: Alexander Barajas

Branch: US Army

Trained Military Occupational Specialty (MOS): Medic

Years of Service:

Final Rank: Master Sergeant E8

Final Location:

Other comments such as military history: Alexander graduated from East Aurora H.S. in Aurora, IL. After several jobs he joined the U.S. Army and became a medic. While in the Army Reserves he trained troops to drive and operate various military equipment and also taught self-defense to the troops. In civilian life, while he was in the Army Reserves, he became a paramedic in a nursing home in Geneva, IL for many years. He was a retired Master Sergeant

Don Bennett HS



Name: Don Bennett

Branch:

Trained Military Occupational Specialty (MOS):

Years of Service:

Final Rank:

Final Location:

Other Comments such as service history:

on Bennett HS



Name: Ron Bennett

Branch: US Army

Trained Military Occupational Specialty (MOS): Quartermaster Ft. Lee Va

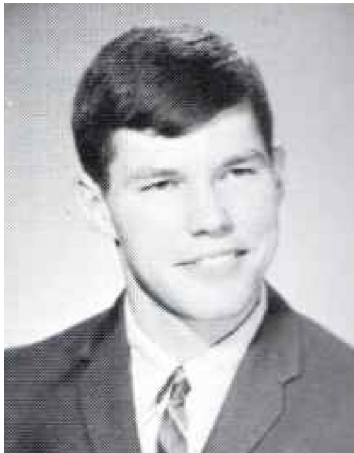
Years of Service: 1965 - 1967

Final Rank: E5

Final Location:

Other Comments such as service history: drafted 28 Dec 65 went to Fort Polk -Basic training and first school for supply training then went to Fort Lee Quartermaster training then to the Fulda Gap on the East-West border with the 14th Armored Cavalry. 18 months made e-5...

Bob Brookner



Name: Bob Brookner

Branch:

Trained Military Occupational Specialty (MOS):

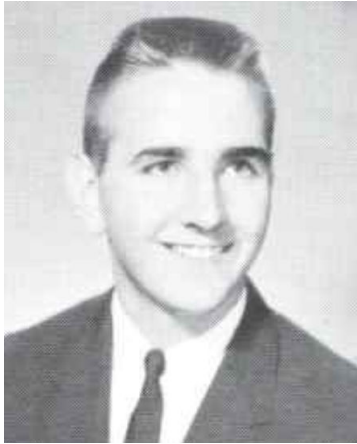
Years of Service:

Final Rank:

Final Location:

Other Comments such as service history:

Jeff Buda



Name: Jeff Buda

Branch: US Airforce

Trained Military Occupational Specialty (MOS): Air Freight/Passenger Service

Years of Service: 1966-1970

Final Rank: E4

Final Location: VIETNAM 67-68. Assigned to Marine 3rd Recon

Other Comments such as service history: Battalion at Dongha on the DMZ for 5.5 months and then moved to Dakto and an Army artillery unit and Green Beret camp for 5.5 months at the Laotian border. That is where I spent the Tet offensive.

Gary Chambers HS



Name: Gary Chambers

Branch: US Army

Trained Military Occupational Specialty (MOS):

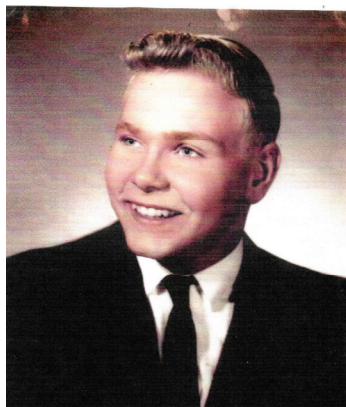
Years of Service:

Final Rank:

Final Location:

Other Comments such as service history:

Roger Collins HS



Name: Roger L. Collins

Branch: US Army

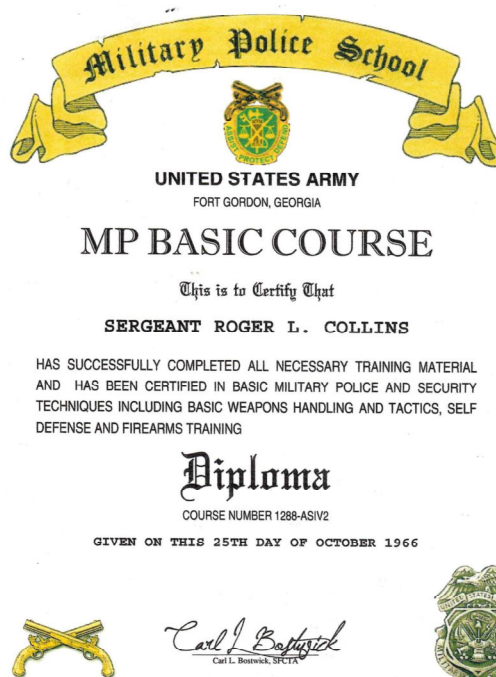
Trained Military Occupations Specialty (MOS) Military Police Officer

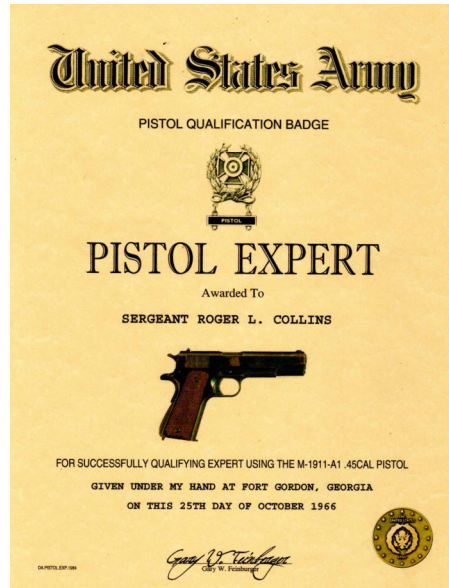
Years of Service: 1966 – 1972

Final Rank: Spec 4

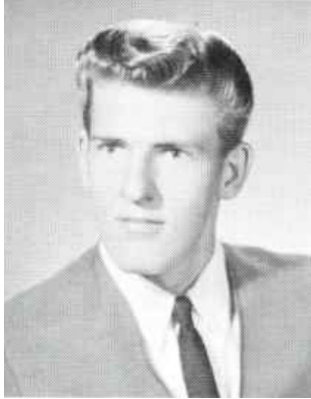
Final Duty Location: Ft. Lee, VA

Other Comments: Police Sergeant, Honorable Discharge Medal, Illinois Soldier Ribbon, National Defense Medal, American Defense Medal, Arm Service Ribbon, Vietnam Era Medal





Bruce Deuschler HS



Bruce Deuschler Basic Training



Name: Bruce Deuschler

Branch: US Army

Trained Military Occupational Specialty (MOS):

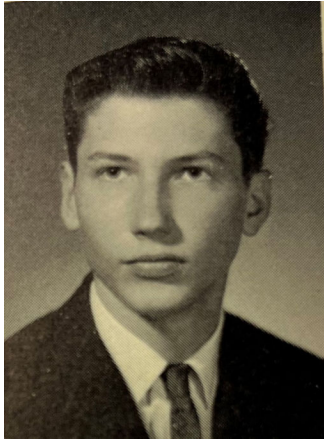
Years of Service:

Final Rank:

Final Location:

Other Comments such as service history:

Dick Elliott HS



Graduation Photo



Dick Elliott Basic Training





Dick Elliott

Name: Dick Elliott

Branch: US Army

Trained Military Occupational Specialty (MOS): Printer's Apprentice 83A10

Years of Service: 1966-1968

Final Rank: Specialist E-4

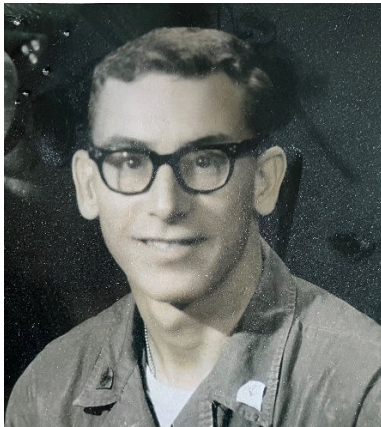
Final Location: Ft. Lewis, Washington

Other Comments such as service history: Honorably Discharged on July 18, 1972

Mike DiSantis HS



Mike DiSantis Military Photo



Name: Mike DiSantis

Branch: US Army

Trained Military Occupational Specialty (MOS): Field Wireman

Years of Service: 1966 - 1968

Final Rank: Sgt E5

Final Location: Viet Nam

Other Comments such as service history:

Jerry Dittman HS



Jerry Dittman Basic Training



Name: Jerry Dittman

Branch: US Army

Trained Military Occupational Specialty (MOS):

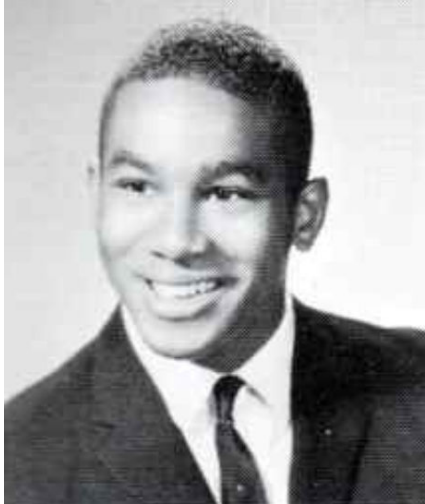
Years of Service:

Final Rank:

Final Location:

Other Comments such as service history:

Keith Fortman HS



Keith Fortman Basic Training



Name: Keith Fortman

Branch: US Army

Trained Military Occupational Specialty (MOS): Fuel Truck Drive

Years of Service: 1966 - 1968

Final Rank: E4

Final Location: Ft. Leonardwood, Mo

Other Comments such as service history: Attended basic training at Ft. Polk, La with a number of East Aurora classmates

Ron Jakious



Name: Ron Jakious

Branch: US Navy

Trained Military Occupational Specialty (MOS): Boatswain's Mate

Years of Service: 1965-1969

Final Rank: E4

Final Location: Viet Nam

Other Comments such as service history: Joined the Navy reserves in 1965 and left for Viet Nam in 1968. Was honorably discharged in 1969. Awarded the Vietnam Medal and 3 purple hearts for combat on US Navy river Boats. Was a member of the River Assault Division 111.

Bjorn (Ben) Kalsto HS



Name: Ben Kalsto

Branch: US Airforce

Trained Military Occupational Specialty (MOS):

Years of Service:

Final Rank:

Final Location:

Other Comments

Tom Kennedy HS



Tom Kennedy Basic Training



Name: Tom Kennedy

Branch: US Army

Trained Military Occupational Specialty (MOS): 408 Map Printing

Years of Service: Drafted 2 years

Final Rank: E5 – Spec 5

Final Location: Ford Island, Hawaii

Other Comments such as service history: Secret Clearance to print maps of Vietnam, Cambodia, North and South Korea. Basic Training – Ft. Polk, La; AIT FT. Belvoir, Va

Dick Lamphere HS



Name: Dick Lamphere

Branch: US Air Force

Trained Military Occupational Specialty (MOS): Security Service

Years of Service: Four

Final Rank: E4

Final Location: Pakistan

Other Comments such as service history:

Rich Langford HS



Rich Langford Military Basic Training



Name: Rich Langford

Branch: US Army

Trained Military Occupational Specialty (MOS):

Years of Service:

Final Rank:

Final Location:

Other Comments such as service history

Gary Losey HS



Name: Gary Losey

Branch: US Army

Trained Military Occupational Specialty (MOS):

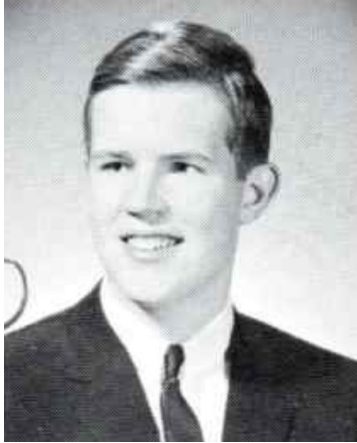
Years of Service: 1969 - 1971

Final Rank: E5

Locationa: Fort Hamilton, Brooklyn NY, Stuttgart Germany and Ludwigsburg Germany (7th Corps)

Other Comments such as service history

Dick Marvin HS



Dick Marvin – Military Command Photo USS Reasoner



Name: Dick Marvin

Branch: US Navy

Trained Military Occupational Specialty (MOS): Surface Warfare with a secondary in Financial Management

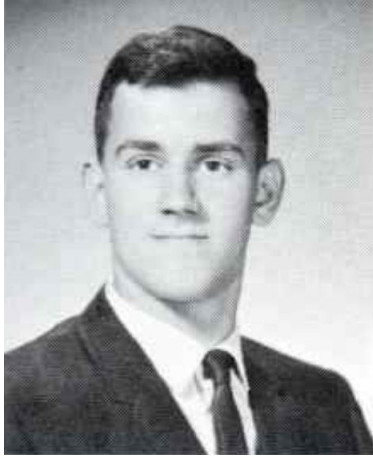
Years of Service: 26 Years

Final Rank: Captain

Final Location: Pentagon.

Other Comments such as service history: Dick's story: I entered the Navy with no idea what life at sea on a small combatant was like and, to my great surprise, I liked it and was good at it. I started out with two cruises to Viet Nam (both involving hostile fire) and then a Med Cruise and two deployments to West Pac. The Navy is a demanding profession but if you are lucky enough to get command of a ship, definitely worth it. My last cruise was when I was in command and we were there for Desert Storm in 1990. I was commander for six Iraqi ship boardings some involving air and Seal assets.

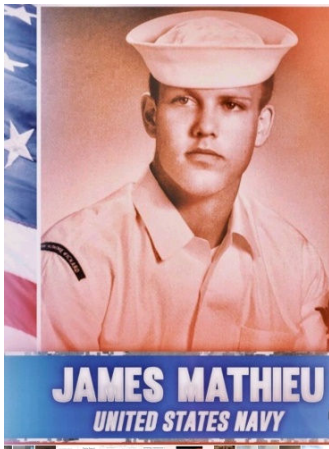
Chuck McDonald



Jim Mathieu HS



Jim Mathieu Military Photo



Name: James (Jim) Mathieu

Branch: U.S. Navy

Trained Military Occupational Specialty (MOS): Naval Intelligence

Years of Service: 1965-1969

Final Rank: Petty Officer Second Class

Final Location: I was stationed on board the aircraft carrier USS Bon Home Richard stationed out of San Diego, California.

Other Comments such as service history: I worked in the Air Intelligence Division on board my ship. I did three tours in Vietnam. Of the various work assignments was to make up target folders for the pilots who flew missions off of my aircraft carrier over Vietnam and other destinations. Made up the pilots target folders briefing the pilots prior to take off and debriefing them when they returned to the ship. Prior to be assigned to the Bon Home Richard I spent a couple months assigned to a flight squadron at the Naval Air Station North Island San Diego being assigned various clerk assignments.

William Murphy HS



William Murphy Military



Name: William Murphy

Branch: US Army

Trained Military Occupational Specialty (MOS):

Years of Service:

Final Rank:

Final Location:

Other Comments such as service history

John Nelson HS



John Nelson Basic Training



Name: John P Nelson

Branch: Colorado Army National Guard, Company A, 140th Signal Battalion, Buckley Air National Guard Base

Trained Military Occupational Specialty (MOS): Unit Supply Specialist Small Weapons Repair 92Y

Years of Service: 1970-1976

Final Rank: Staff Sergeant E6

Final Location: Camp George West, Golden Colorado

Other Comments such as service history: Duties included small weapons repair E4, company clerk E5, Supply Officer E6, Signal Communications officer E6, Honorably Discharged Feb 1976. Attended NCO School, Received Denver Post Outstanding Colorado National Guard Award

Dale Nichols HS



Name: Dale E Nichols

Branch: US Air Force

Trained Military Occupational Specialty (MOS): Aircraft Mechanic

Years of Service: 1967-1971

Final Rank: E4 Sgt

Final Location: Shaw AFB South Carolina

Other Comments such as service history:

Greg Pepper HS



Name: Greg Pepper

Branch: US Army

Trained Military Occupational Specialty (MOS):

Years of Service:

Final Rank: Sgt

Final Location: Viet Nam

Other Comments such as service history: Killed in Action January 22, 1971

Willy Platacis HS



Name: Willnis (Willy) Platacis

Branch: US Army

Trained Military Occupational Specialty (MOS): 11B Combat Infantry

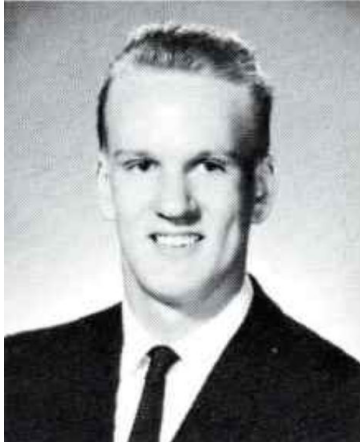
Years of Service: 1969-1971

Final Rank: Sargeant E5

Final Location: Viet Nam

Other Comments such as service history: Viet Nam: Pleiku and the central highlands mostly. Aero Rifle Infantry Platoon, 7/17th Air Cavalry Regiment

Richard Pool HS



Name: Richard Pool

Branch: US Airforce

MOS: Plumbing

Years of Service: 4/66 – 2/70

Final Rank: Sgt E4

Final Location: Michigan, USA

Military History and Comments:

Danny Pugh HS



Name: Danny Pugh

Branch: US Army

MOS: Truck Driver

Years of Service: 1966-1968

Final Rank: Spec 5

Military History: Viet Nam

James Rahn HS



Name: James (Jim) Rahn

Branch: US Marine Corp

Trained Military Occupational Specialty (MOS):

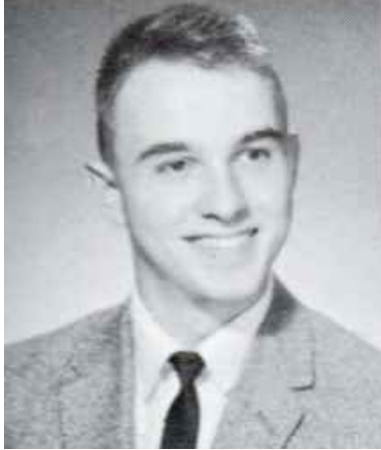
Years of Service: 1965 – 1969 (Dec 1966 – Dec 1967 Viet Nam)

Final Rank: E6 Staff Sergeant

Final Location: Kansas City Headquarters

Other Comments such as service history:

Norman Rebenstorf HS



Name: Norman Rebenstorf

Branch: US Army

Trained Military Occupational Specialty (MOS): Finance

Years of Service: 1967 - 1969

Final Rank: SP5 Sergeant

Final Location: Frankfurt, Germany

Other Comments such as service history:

Ron Singer HS



Name: Ron Singer

Branch: US Air Force

Trained Military Occupational Specialty (MOS):

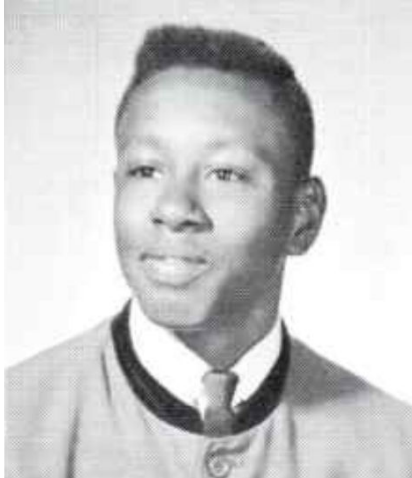
Years of Service:

Final Rank:

Final Location:

Other Comments such as service history:

Phillip Simmons HS



Name: Phillip Simmons

Branch: US Army

Trained Military Occupational Specialty (MOS):

Years of Service:

Final Rank:

Final Location:

Other Comments such as service history:

Dennis Smith HS



Name: Dennis Smith

Branch: US Army

Trained Military Occupational Specialty (MOS):

Years of Service:

Final Rank:

Final Location: Germany

Other Comments such as service history: Killed in Car Accident in Germany while serving

Luigi Testone HS



Name: Luigi Testone

Branch:

Trained Military Occupational Specialty (MOS):

Years of Service:

Final Rank:

Final Location:

Other Comments such as service history:

Jeff Travis HS



Name: Jeff Travis

Branch:

Trained Military Occupational Specialty (MOS):

Years of Service:

Final Rank:

Final Location:

Other Comments such as service history:

Michael Wilhelmi



Name: Michael Wilhelmi

Branch: US Airforce

Trained Military Occupational Specialty (MOS):

Years of Service: 66-70

Final Rank:

Final Location:

Other Comments such as service history:

Terry Wagner HS



PHOTO – Military

Name: Terry Wagner

Branch: US Marine Corp

Trained Military Occupational Specialty (MOS):

Years of Service: 1969 - 1970

Final Rank:

Final Location:

Other Comments such as service history

Dennis Wright HS



Name: Dennis Wright

Branch: US Navy

Trained Military Occupational Specialty (MOS): Supply Officer

Years of Service: 1965-1998

Final Rank: Captain – O6

Final Location: Commander, Defense Contract Management Command International

Other Comments such as service history: Enlisted out of High School, December 1965. Was initially trained as a Storekeeper. Remained Enlisted attaining rank of E-5 Storekeeper Second Class. Was accepted into an Enlisted to Officer program, essentially a Navy scholarship at the University of Nebraska (BSME). After graduating and commissioning as an 1100 Line Officer, served on old WWII era Destroyer (USS Eversole DD-789) providing Gunfire Support Missions off the coast of Vietnam in 1972. Later transferred to 3100 Supply Corps serving as Supply Officer on one of our Fleet Ballistic Missile Submarines, USS George Bancroft (SSBN-643) Gold Crew. Later served on two aircraft carriers, Assistant Supply Officer on USS Midway (CV-41) and Supply Officer on USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN-72). Final duty station was Commander, Defense Contract Management Command International with 57 offices in 23 countries. Retired September 30, 1998. After retirement in 1998, worked as an EXPAT for Brown & Root (later morphed into Halliburton KBR, then just KBR) and deployed with them for the 2003 Gulf War. Then in 2005 formed my own company, Peregrine Development International, a micro mini-KBR. Finally retired-retired in 2016. Presently reside in the Philippines.