

Scott A. Krueger – Fellow Cannon King

It has been over 54 years ago that a 22 year old Scott Krueger walked into the Orderly Room at Quan Loi, South Vietnam to be processed into Alpha Battery, 6/27th Artillery. I was a “short-timer” on that day with less than 30 days left of my extended tour with the Battery.

I was concerned that an 18 year old had arrived to take my place as Battery Clerk. After these many years I cannot recall his name, but only that he carried around a huge boom box on his shoulder and in his work habits, he showed a disregard for details. I was concerned for the soldiers of the Battery that he would not be able to do the job as the U.S. Army and Alpha Battery ran on details.

And thus in talking with Scott, who for some reason liked to hang around the Orderly Room for the two or three days he was at Quan Loi, I attempted to talk him into taking my job. I knew I could convince the First Sargent Jefferson to give him a try. Scott was much more mature. I was not an Army trained clerk and nor would he be, but his obvious intelligence and good humor won me over. No matter how hard I tried, he insisted he wanted to stay in Fire Direction Control, (FDC), and he wanted to join the guns out in the field at FSB Wade.

I don't know how my designated replacement actually did; whether he was soon replaced or not. As I would soon leave I felt I had at least done what I could to talk Scott into replacing me. When my June DEROS date arrived I gladly boarded a C-130 for the first leg of my trip home, knowing I had tried for a better replacement.

Advance thirty-two years in the future – I had recently retired from managing and finally owning a moving and storage business in Omaha, Nebraska and wanted something to occupy my time. After searching the Internet for anything regarding my artillery unit or Quan Loi, I decided to find other Cannon Kings and together put up a website to honor the memory of our service. I soon found Jim Hynes, Reed McDonald and Les Higa, all who had photos and stories to contribute to the website.



L - Terry Hainick, Scott Krueger & Les Higa

The website went live in late 2002 and a year later - 2003, I received an email from Scott. He was traveling in Vietnam for business and he was writing from An Loc, the Binh Long Provincial Capital near Quan Loi. He had been searching the Internet and had come across our website for the 6/27th Artillery and as he wrote – “I was surprised and pleased to find your website and I'll be damned if there was even a picture of me on the site!”

In 2004 we held our first reunion of the 6/27th Artillery in Las Vegas. Scott and Nancy were there and for each of the next eight reunions they were there. His stories of his trips back to Vietnam for his children's furniture business always entertained the

group and made us laugh. His wry sense of humor and his love for his fellow vets was obvious.

As we prepare to hold what may be our last reunion in Omaha, NE this September, I know Scott and Nancy will be sorrowfully missed. We will take a moment to remember Scott and his easy smile and gracious manner and send fond wishes to Nancy.

Rest in Peace, Scott Krueger - Cannon King!

John Wavra