

USMC Class 38th OCC/BC 3-66 Alumni Profiles



Richard "Terry" Cox

Date: April 4, 2006 **Email:** tcox95@cox.net
Nick Name: Terry, TC, "Top Cat" (Aviator call sign) **Co. & Platoon OCS:** B2
Wife's Name: Harriet **Co. & Platoon TBS:** D1
Kid's Name: Eric (37), Jason (35) **MOS:** 7584 (RIO)
Address: 6205 Via Subida **Rank:** Captain
Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275
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After leaving Quantico: NAS Pensacola, FL; MAD Intercept School, Glynco, GA; MCAS (VMFA 312 "Checkerboard Squadron") Beaufort, SC; VMFA 115 "Silver Eagles", Chu Lai, Vietnam

Vietnam Tour: September 1967 – July 1968

Attached To: MAG 13 (VMFA 115 "Silver Eagles"), Chu Lai, Vietnam

Jobs in Nam: RIO (Radar Intercept Office) in F4 Phantom; Flight Scheduling, Public Relations, Special Services

Locations in Nam: Chu Lai, mostly I Corps (CAS) & North Vietnam

Operations in Nam: Operations throughout I Corps, including TET Offensive 1968; 26 day siege on Hue; "Pegasus" (end of Khe Sanh siege); Destruction of Khe Sanh; Numerous flights through A Shau Valley to Prevent NVA from using the roads for transporting weapons from North to South.

Experiences to Share:

Best:

Flying in the fastest fighter jet in the world; making a Mach 2 run (twice the speed of sound); surviving many close calls including: Being shot down; Having a bullet lodged in my seat pan two inches from my ass; Hitting the ground on a bombing run in the A Shau Valley, then maneuvering our jet during the pull-out through the trees, ending up bringing branches home on our wings; Completing 300 missions.

Worst:

TET 1968; being shot down and rescued under heavy enemy gun fire. Medevac to states.

Favorite Memories:

In Service:

Being around Marines that know what it means to be on the edge and pushing the envelope; supporting our troops in need.

After Service:

Getting married (twice), Harriet being my latest, 18 years of marriage and love her to death; having two sons (Eric & Jason) that I think the world of and watching them grow into nice young men; kid's wedding; three grand children (Brendan, Mackenzie & Tyler); ran two marathons; remodel two houses; retirement; becoming a "Magic" member of the Magic Castle in Hollywood, CA; getting back together with my Marine classmates.

Medals Received:

23 Air Medals; 1 Single Mission Air Medal w/bronze star; Purple Heart

Jobs:

In Service:

Flight Scheduling Officer, RVN; Public Relations Officer, RVN; Selective Service Officer, RVN ; Legal Investigative Officer; Camp Pendleton, CA; Physical Training Officer, Pensacola, FL

After Service:

Assoc. Executive, South Pasadena YMCA; Executive Director, Los Altos YMCA; Sales Manager. Long Beach Valve & Fitting Co.; VP Sales & Marketing, Pelican Products (20 years). Retired December 2004

Other Comments:

I worked with Major Stephen Pless (Medal of Honor winner) at my last duty station in Pensacola, Florida. I was there at his untimely death.