

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



James T O'Kelley, Jr

Date: September 21, 2007
Nick Name: Jim
Wife's Name: Jan
Kid's Name: Tara (34), Colleen (31), James (28)
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Co. & Platoon OCS: A2
Co. & Platoon TBS: E4
MOS: 1302, 0402
Rank: Colonel

After leaving Quantico: Engineer Officer's School @ Camp Lejeune

Vietnam Tour: 1966, 1967, 1968

Attached To: 9th Engineer Battalion, 2nd ROKMC, 11th Engineers and 9th Marines

Jobs in Nam: Engineer Officer (platoon commander, XO, CO commander); advisor to ROKMC company at Binh Son (south of Chu Lai)

Locations in Nam: Duc Pho to DMZ, South China Sea to RVN borders in I Corps

Operations in Nam: Beaucoup, Lancaster, Golden Fleece, DeSoto, Union, Cochise, Dragon March (ROKMC)

Experiences to Share:

Best:

Chu Lai and Ca Lu

Worst:

Con Thien

Favorite Memories:

In Service:

Met future wife as USMC escort at National Cherry Blossom Festival in 1966

After Service:

Contributing author of book "The 9th Engineer Battalion, First Marine Division in Vietnam" in 2000. Special Intelligence Award from Director, CIA in 2004

Medals Received:

BSM w/V, PH, Air Medal, CAR, LoM, Purple Heart, etc.

Jobs:

After Service:

CIA, NOAA, USGS (Chief, Homeland Security Operations)

Other Comments:

Completed Doctorate in Public Administration from GWU in 1976. Melanoma Cancer from Agent Orange in 1999. Completed Central Shenandoah Criminal Justice Training Academy August 2007 and am now working as Deputy Sheriff in Albemarle County VA; Lionel gauge model trains.