

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



Charles Sooter

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Email: chucksooter@hotmail.com

Nick Name: Chuck

Co. & Platoon OCS: B1

Wife's Name: Carol

Co. & Platoon TBS: D5

Kid's Name: Stacy (29), Michael (27), Julie (25)

MOS: 0302

Address: 11932 Yearling St.
Cerritos, CA 90703

Rank: Captain

Phone # (s): 562-860-817

After leaving Quantico: Went straight to Vietnam and then Camp Pendleton

Vietnam Tour: July 1966 – August 1967

Attached To: 1st Anti-Tank Battalion and then 1st Battalion/1st Marines

Jobs in Nam: Ontos Platoon Commander, Infantry Platoon Commander, S-4, XO HQ Company, XO Infantry Company, CO Infantry Company

Locations in Nam: South of DaNang near Hoi An

Operations in Nam: Trinidad, Shasta, Charlie Company Heliborn Raid, Stone, Lafayette, Canyon, Yell, Brown & Calhoun

Experiences to Share:

Best:

One week before Christmas 1966 on the last day of a "Country Fair", in the middle of the monsoon season, I received a package from home. Inside were boxes of goodies and X-mas decorations. Before returning from the mission, I decorated one of the empty huts with the X-mas decorations. I've always wondered what the farmers thought we had done to their place when they returned from the "Country Fair". Then, while walking back to base camp, along the narrow, muddy rice paddy dykes, I slipped. Not only did I fall into the rice paddy, but so did the "care package" from home. So much for good intentions from the home front I never did tell my parents the truth.

In the summer of 1967, our company was just wrapping up a Battalion level operation in Vietnam. For four days we had been sweeping the countryside. On the last scorching day, the battalion S-4 sent our company a 25-gallon bladder of ice-cold milk via helicopter. Milk never tasted so good.

Favorite Memories:

After Service:

Working on major Aerospace programs such as the Saturn/Apollo, Space Shuttle, and National Missile Defense

Jobs:

After Service:

Aerospace Engineer with Rockwell International and Boeing for 33 years

Other Comments:

I enjoy collecting quotes. One of my favorite quotes is the following:
"It's never too late to become the man I might have been."