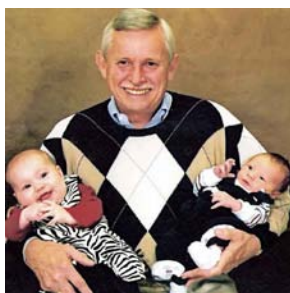


USMC Class 38th OCC/BC 3-66 Alumni Profiles



Darrell A. Wells

Date: April 2, 2007
Nick Name: NA
Wife's Name: Divorced 15 years
Kid's Name: Jeff (39), Mike (37), Lisa (34)
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Co. & Platoon OCS: D3
Co. & Platoon TBS: D5
MOS: 0302
Rank: Captain

After leaving Quantico: 20 days leave; DaNang to Phu Bai to pick up Platoon

Vietnam Tour: July 1966 – August 1967

Attached To: Rifle Platoon Cmdr, 3rd platoon, Lima Co., 3rd Bn, 4th Mar, 3rd MarDiv

Jobs in Nam: Rifle Platoon Cmdr 6 months; S3 Alpha at Battalion 6 months

Locations in Nam: Phu Bai, Dong Ha, Cam Lo, Con Thien; essentially Quang Tri Province

Operations in Nam: Many but most significant were Hastings and Prairie 1 & 2

Experiences to Share:

Best:

Being around the Marines I commanded. I've had 3 annual reunions with my platoon sgt; platoon guide (Silver Star); and guns section leader sgt (Navy Cross)

Worst:

Those we lost re: KIA or POW. My point man, L/CPL Richard Burgess was captured on Prairie (9/24/66), by the 324B NVA Division and spent 6 ½ years as POW. We are in contact as of 3 years ago. Also Captain Carrol of Kilo 3/4 was killed by a shot round; Navy Cross and later named Camp Carrol after him.

Favorite Memories:

After Service:

Having 3 children; 5 grandchildren; quit smoking (cold turkey) in 1970 at 55 years old; attending 3yrs at Loyola University Chicago, received my Master of Science Degree

Medals Received:

Purple Heart, PUC (Presidential Unit Citation), Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry w/Palm

Jobs:

After Service:

Labor Relations; Labor contract negotiations, presenting arbitrations, EEOC employment discrimination claims, main training non-union status...33 years.

Other Comments:

In Lima Co. 3/4 two other fellow TBS grads were Platoon Commanders with me; Larry Richards – 1st Platoon and Charles "Chic" Lord – 2nd Platoon (since deceased). Also, orders from WESPAC (effective Sept. '67) sent me to Camp Lejeune where I was assigned as a Rifle Company Cmdr. of A/1/8 Frank Carrigan, also TBS grad. was CO. of B/1/8. Lastly, my best memories are of my friends from OCS & TBS – everyone a damn fine bunch of Marines. I was honored to know and serve with.