

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



Earl C. Wentworth

Date: July 30, 2007
Nick Name: Earl
Wife's Name: Nancy
Kid's Name: Charles (37), Michelle (34), Tanya (32)
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Co. & Platoon OCS: B4
Co. & Platoon TBS: E5
MOS: 1302 / 1803
Rank: Captain

After leaving Quantico: I attended Engineer school at Camp Lejeune

Vietnam Tour: August 1966 – September 1967

Attached To: 3rd Engineering Battalion – Hill 37 Sough DaNang, Vietnam

Jobs in Nam: Platoon Leader, clearing roads in support of 2nd Battalion 3rd Marines. Later on I was assigned to a special landing force, (1st Battalion, 3rd Marines).

Locations in Nam: We participated in operations from Chu Lai all along the coast into the DMZ

Operations in Nam: Numerous operation; as I recall one was operation Union others from Chu Lai along the coast; all the way up into the DMZ

Experiences to Share:

Best:
Handling good relationships, serving along with fellow Marines and working with people I met.

Worst:
The worst experiences were the amphibious landing off the ship. For example, six of my men were killed in a helicopter crash (CH34), after leaving the ship. Two of our classmates, Gerald Dobbins and Wayne Hayes were killed while leading their tank platoons.

Favorite Memories:

In Service:
The fact that it was an honor to be in the Marine Corps and to serve my country as a Marine.

After Service:
My best memories were meeting my second wife; having mutual compatibility and now enjoying life together during our retirement years.

Medals Received:

PUC

Jobs:

In Service:
I was named Inspector Instructor of company "D", 9th Engineer Battalion. I had to make casualty calls and present the flag at the funerals. I was stationed in Arizona that was my last year before I got out.

After Service:

I lived in Laguna Beach. I met my first wife at the "Sandpiper" L.B, CA. Although, I had a job offer to teach High School in Laguna Beach, I decided to go back home, Mississippi to coach football and teach school.

I told my wife, that in Laguna, there were too many "peculiar people". However, my first wife did not like the South...One day: "I took her fishing down the swamps, she got very upset, threw a fit and left me alone. "She got lost in the swamp, driving back the wrong way and taking the wrong turn. Finally the Sheriff found her and brought her back. (The whole thing was a very bad experience...)

I stayed in Mississippi for two years. Later on, I had to come back to Camp Pendleton to get my secondary MOS in Am tracks.

As I came back to CA without a job, I ended up working for the Postal Service (1973 – 2005), craft work, supervisor and union representative. I retired in October, 2005 and moved to San Diego CA, where I now reside with my second wife.

My second wife and I met at a dancing club, eight years after I separated and divorced my first wife. She was living in So. CA (Orange County) and worked as a translator for a school district. (When I took her back to the South for a visit, she did not like it either...), so; we moved with our jobs to Walnut Creek, CA.