

Steve Larson

Corporal Fire Direction Control (Artillery) U.S. Marine Corps

Vietnam



I enlisted in 1967 when I was 18. I left for MCRD (Marine Corps Recruit Depot) in San Diego in August of 1967. I came home after Boot Camp then returned for artillery school in Fire Direction Control. Jungle training came next.

When I left for Vietnam I flew to Okinawa, then to Da Nang, then to Quang Tri. That was late January '68 or early February '68 during the Tet Offensive. I was assigned to Headquarters Battery 3rd Battalion 12th Marines 3rd Marine Division and served on several LZ's in the northern I Corps.

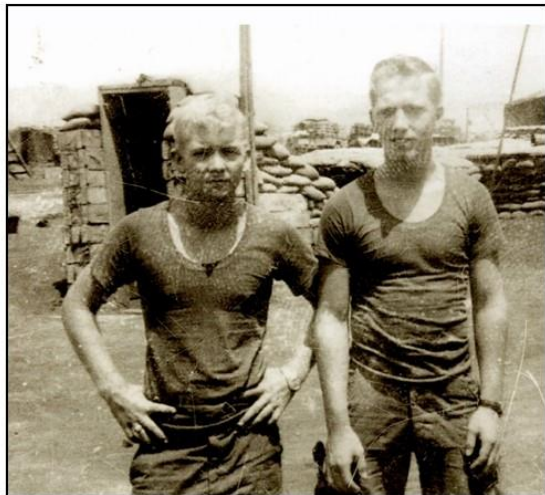
I ate a lot of C-Rations which I enjoyed and had hot food now and then.

I made several life-long friends while serving. One, from Texas, Jerry (Hot Rod) Crawford, I

served with every day of Boot Camp and Vietnam. Our families are very close to this day. Another, from Council Bluffs, Joseph (Mac) Sautter, I lost in January 2023 to health complications as a result from Agent Orange.

Phil Rood sent me The Slater News every week. It was great reading about home. When I was done with the paper, the guys would take turns reading about the locals. They, too, looked forward to The Slater News. My family sent me letters often. Care packages were shared with everyone.

My rotation was up so I went to Da Nang, flew to Okinawa, then to San Francisco, and on to Omaha. That was March of 1969. I was 19 years old. I was proud to serve and I would do it again.



Steve (Right) and Jerry (Hot Rod) Crawford in Camp

MILITARY STANDBY AUTHORIZATION FOR COMMERCIAL AIR TRAVEL			
1. LAST NAME - FIRST NAME - MIDDLE	2. GRADE	3. SERVICE NUMBER	4. SSN
LARSON, Steven Edward	CPL	3308076	
5. ORGANIZATION AND STATION		6. PERIOD OF AUTHORIZATION	
SEPARATION SECTION, 12 th MARINES		18Jan69 - 25Mar69	
7. CERTIFYING OFFICER'S NAME, GRADE & TITLE			
Lt. Col. [Signature]			
8. DATE FROM			
18Jan69			
9. DATE TO			
25Mar69			
10. CERTIFYING OFFICER'S SIGNATURE			
[Signature]			
11. CERTIFYING OFFICER'S NAME, GRADE & TITLE			
Lt. Col. [Signature]			
12. DATE			
18Jan69			
13. SIGNATURE OF TRAVELER			
[Signature]			
14. DATE			
18Jan69			
15. AIRLINE			
FOR AIRLINE USE ONLY			
DD FORM 1580			

Steve's Ticket Home

Steve's Map of his Locations, Vietnam

