



Ripcord Association

2017

Laughlin, NV

Reunion



The Reunion

The purpose then and now is to enable survivors of the Ripcord battle the opportunity to meet and talk to others who went through the same hard times. The FSB Ripcord Association held its first reunion in 1986 in Whippany, NJ directed by Chip Collins and John Mihalko. In 1987 Chuck Hawkins put together one on the edge of Washington, DC. Then none were held until 1995 when John Mihalka put one on in Golden Colorado. Since then the annual reunions have been set up by Fred Spaulding with the exception of the 2000 reunion in Shreveport, LA which was honchoed by Jim Campbell. We have been in Fredericksburg, VA, Mobile, AL, Atlantic City, NJ, Savannah, GA, Shreve Port, LA, Charleston, SC, Carlisle, PA, Colorado Springs, CO, Des Moines, IA, Laughlin, NV, Springfield, MO, Indianapolis, IN, Fort Worth, TX, and Myrtle Beach, SC. Some places twice or more. Fred Spaulding has continued for years to find appropriate locations that can accommodate our group needs and budget with assistance from Bob and Red Judd and Lee and Kathy Widjeskog.



Lee and Kathy Widjeskog have handled the registrations and treasury since 2006. They continue to be the face of the reunion when people sign in each year.



Bob and Red Judd are the dependable handlers of the shirt and hat sales at the reunion. They carefully store the clothing and guidons and ensured their proper placement. No small job!



Paul Buhr In the past few years, Paul Buhr (A 2/506) has kindly taken his time to shoot the photos for the yearbook. It takes a lot of one's time to do this work and gives him less time to chat with the guys. Thanks for all your efforts Paul!



Fred Spaulding Since 1995 Fred has been the stead fast arranger of our reunions. Fred has traveled around the country looking for good quality, reasonable locations for the reunions. His efforts make the work of the others a bit easier. His hard work is shown in the quality place we are using.

Ripcord Association Board of Directors



Peter Meloro
C/2-506
President



Frank Marshall
A/2-506
Vice President



Lee Widjeskog
A/2-506
Secretary/Treasurer



Bill Boles
D/2-506



Jim McCoy
D/1-506



**PAM & RANDY BALDWIN
A 2/506**



**ROBERT & MICHELE
BARROWCLIFF A 159 AHB**



**LIN & PINKEY BASHFORD
D 2/506**



**DAN & CAROL BOHAN
GUEST D 1/506**



**ROBERT BROWER
E 2/506**



**JAN & SAM BROWN
B 1/506**



**KELLI RIDENOUR BROWN &
JOHN BROWN A 2/506**



**PAUL BUHR
A 2/506**



**GUMECINDO & ELIA CANO
D 2/506**



**DIANNE, BOBBY & HOWARD
COLBERT C 2/506**



**JANET & ROBERT COUNTS
A 2/506**



**TOMMY COUNTS
D 2/506**



**DALE & SUE COOPER & KRIS
KILTZ C 2/506**



**DENNISE & ANTHONY
CRITCHLOW HHC 2/506**



**MERLE & RUTH DELAGRANGE
D 1/506**



**TOM DEWULF
GUEST PATHFINDERS**



**MICHAEL DICKEN
B 2/506**



**RICHARD DOYLE
D 1/506**



**PATRICIA & RICHARD DRURY
D 1/506**



**REX FLANSBURG & TOM
WERMAN D 2/506**



**RUDY & LINDA FORSMAN
D 2/506**



**DEBBIE & JOHN FOWLER
C 2/506**



**KEN & SARALYN GAINER
A 2/506**



**CAROL & FREDDIE GILBERT
D 2/506**



**MARTIN GLENNON
A 2/506**



**EVERAL GUIMOND, JUDY
BERKOWSKI, LAURA GUIMOND
& JIM DORR GUEST D 2/501**



**CINDY & STEVE GUNN
D 2/506**



**JANET & RICK HAHN
E 2/506**



**ELWOOD HALL & JOHNNIE
PETTERSON D 2/506**



**CHRIS (PAHISSA) VAN MEENEN &
CHUCK HAWKINS A 2/506**



**MAGGIE & BILLY HELVEY
A & HHC 2/506**



**RAYMOND HINES
2/319 FA**



**TERRY HODGES
D 1/506**



**CHUCK & JEAN HOLMEN
A /159 ASHB**



**LARRY & SUE HULSEY
426 S&S BN**



**BOB & RED JUDD
B 2/506**



**SOPHIA & DAVID KENYON
B 326 ENG**



**DONALD KIEFER
A 2/506**



**JOHN KOOZER & JOHNNA
SCHMIDT A 2/506**



**ROBERT LAYTON
B 2/501**



**BOB & MABEL LEMON
C 2/506**



**KATHIE & WALTER LYSSY
HHC 2/506**



**PHYLLIS & MURPHY MAJORIA
ASSOC. MEMBERS**



**CARY, NATALIE, DEAN &
MADISON MANDOLADO
GUESTS**



**THE GILBERTS &
THE MANDOLADOS**



**STAR & GENE MARSHALL
B 2/319 FA**



**BRUCE & CAROLYN McCORKLE
D 2/506**



**RON & LINDA McCRORY
E 2/506**



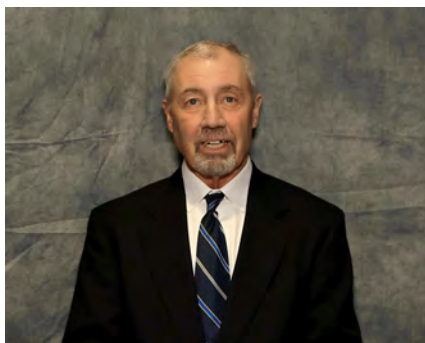
MICHELLE & JAMES McCOY
D 1/506



PETER & CHRIS MELERO
C 2/506



UWE & DIANE MEYER
B 2/506



DAVID MITCHELL
D 2/501



RACHEL SPRINGER & ROBERT
PAGANO B 2/506



TOM & BARBARA PEACOCK
D 2/506 & A 2/501



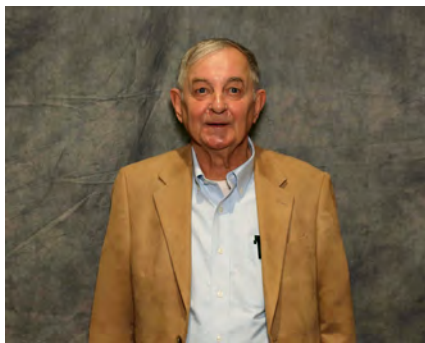
PHIL PRINCE
GUEST D 1/506



DOUGLAS & IRIS PUFFER
D 2/506



LUREE & SAMUEL RAWLINSON
ASSOC. MEMBER



JOHN RICH
GUEST B 2/319 FA



BILL ROSE
A 2/506



KENT ROWLAND
D 2/506



**CHARLES SCHILERO
D 2/506**



**CHERYL & GEORGE SCOTT
A 2/11 FA**



**ANNABELLE & LARRY SENA
A 2/506**



**VICTORIA RAYLE & FRED
SHUTTLEWORTH E 2/506**



**MARC SKINNER
D 2/506**



**EVERETT SLAUGHTER, JR
B 2/506**



**FRED & MICKI SPAULDING
HHC 3RD BDE**



**TERRY STANGER
A 159 AHB**



**JANE & DENNIS STORTZ
D 2/506**



**BOB TARBUCK & PAIGE
CORKHILL C 2/506**



**DALE & JANET TAUER
D 1/506**



**BOB & JACKIE WALLACE
C 2/506**



RAULEND LEE WHITEIS
B 2/506



LEE & KATHY WIDJESKOG
A 2/506



BETTY & BOB WORRAL
B 2/501



LINDA & DAVID YONTS
A 2/506



WENDY & DAVID YONTS
GUESTS



DAVID, LINDA, DAVID & WENDY
YONTS FAMILY



BARBARA GUNYAN, DIANE COOKE &
DESTINY PROVIENCE B 2/506



RIPCORD FLAG

2016 Golf Outing



Three Amigos



Heath demonstrated the Arizona drive!



**They are OK at golf but great at drinks
& riding carts!**



Coin Presentation



After attending the 1995 reunion, General Harrison decided the survivors of the Ripcord Battle deserved a little more recognition for surviving the battle and finding the courage to meet with others who suffered during and after the battle. He developed a design and had a two sided coin created. The coin shows the firebase and surrounding hills 805, 902 and 1000 which were pivotal to the outcome of the battle. The reverse side has the 101st shield and sentiments. Each year since 1997, a coin has been presented to survivors who are attending their first reunion. In cases where family members of those killed in the battle attend, coins are presented to the family in memory of the departed. The recipient is called upon the stage and cheered by his battle peers as the coin is presented. The pictures that follow show the most recent recipients.

Presented by Fred Spaulding



ROBERT BARROWCLIFF ALPHA 159 ASHB



LARRY HULSEY 426 S&S BN



SAM BROWN BRAVO 1/506



TERRY HODGES DELTA 1/506



MICHAEL DICKEN BRAVO 2/506



GUMECINDO CANO DELTA 2/506



CHARLES SCHLERO DELTA 2/506



ROBERT BROWER ECHO 2/506

Presented by Chuck Hawkins



JOHN KOOZER ALPHA 2/506



KEN GAINER ALPHA 2/506



JOHN BROWN ALPHA 2/506



CHRIS PAHISSA VAN MEENEN ALPHA 2/506

Presented by David Mitchell



LAURA GUIMOND, JUDY BERKOWSKI &
EVERAL GUIMOND DELTA 2/501

Unit Group Photos



ALPHA 2/506



DELTA 2/506



3RD BRIGADE HHC



BRAVO 2/506



CHARLIE 2/506



ECHO 2/506



HHC 2/506



BRAVO 326 ENGINEERS



ALPHA 159 ASHB



BRAVO 2/319 FIELD ARTILLERY



BRAVO & DELTA 2/501



BRAVO & DELTA 1/506



PATHFINDERS



ALPHA 2/11 FIELD ARTILLERY

ANNA BRITT NOLAN FOUNDATION

In 2007 The FSB Ripcord Association was informed that author, Keith Nolan had been diagnosed with terminal cancer. The members of the association were moved to see if they could help him. After discussions with Keith, George and Mary Murphy and others felt what Keith wanted most was a college fund for his ten year old daughter. The Murphy's with the support of the association set up a trust fund for Anna Nolan. Over the years this fund has grown and each year we provide additional funds for the account during our annual reunion. Keith's book, "Ripcord" has helped us get together and has aided in the healing process of getting over the losses of our buddies and friends.

The winners make selections!



Tommy counts gets first choice.



Tommy again (shake those number!).



Dave Yonts gets a pick!



Smiling Steve Gunn selects!



Star Marshall finds something good



Annabelle Sena figures she can get this to New Mexico



The last item was for Dave Bohan.



"Now, here is how you win..."



Seems like more fun over there

HOSPITALITY ACTIVITY



Now, who is this?



So many tickets but so far no winner



"There I was all alone..."



Let's see, I've got a card somewhere with my name



Honest! It was this long!!!



Ken, did the stuff in the jungle ever taste this good?



Same company, different view.



Chuck, Ken said it was good. What do you think?



"Don't believe them! I hit the golf ball far!!"



We've got a train to catch



Gunn is still shooting



Murphy.. this is what needs to be done!



There I was... flying through the air!!!



Pray Jackie! Dave's trying hard to open the bottle



Good food, drinks and friends.



Ask grandma for some "solid clothes".



Elia checks to see how much more she can buy



Man! We are happy to be here!!!



Springfield 2017 Reunion Attendees

Bill & Pam Baldwin A 2/506
 Robert & Michele Barrowcliff A 159 AVN
 Lin & Pinky Bashford D 2/506
 David & Carol Bohan Pathfinder
 Bruce Brady & Karolyn Kruger A 2/506
 Robert Brower E 2/506
 John & Kelli Brown A 2/506
 Sam & Jan Brown B 1/506
 Paul Buhr A 2/506
 Gumeccindo & Elia Cano D 2/506
 Howard, Diana & Bobbi Colbert C 2/506
 Dale and Sue Cooper C 2/506
 Robert & Janice Counts A 2/506
 Tommy Counts D 2/506
 Anthony & Dennise Critchlow HHC 2/506
 Merle & Ruth DeLagrange D 1/506
 Thomas DeWulf D 1/506
 Michael & Christine Dicken B 2/506
 Richard Doyle D 1/506
 Richard & Pat Drury D 1/506
 Rex Flansburg & Tom Wenman D 2/506
 Rudy & Linda Forsman D 2/506
 John & Debbie Fowler C 2/506
 Kenneth & Saralyn Gainer A 2/506
 Fred & Carol Gilbert D 2/506
 Martin Glennon A 2/506
 Robin Graham HHC 2/506
 Everal & Laura Guimond, Judy Berkowski
 & Jim Dorr D 2/501
 Steve & Cindy Gunn D 2/506

Barbara Gunyan, Dana Cooke & Destiny
 Provence B 2/506
 Ricky & Janet Hahn E 2/506
 Elwood Hall & Johnnie Patterson D 2/506
 Chuck Hawkins C&A 2/506
 Bill & Linda Heath A & HHC 2/506
 Billy & Maggie Helvey A & HHC 2/506
 Raymond Hines 2/319 FA LNO
 Terry Hodges D 1/506
 Chuck & Jean Holman A 159 AVN
 Larry & Susan Hulsey 426 S&S BN
 Paul & Lisa Jensen B 2/506
 John Johnson A 4/77 ARA
 Bob & Red Judd B 2/506
 Dave & Sophia Kenyon 326 ENG
 Donald Kiefer A 2/506
 Kris Kiltz Guest
 John & Annett Kuennen C 2/506
 John Koozer & Johnna Schmidt A 2/506
 Bob Layton B 2/501
 Robert & Mabel Lemon C 2/506
 Walter & Kathie Lyssy HHC 2/506
 Murphy & Phyllis Majoria Assoc. Mem.
 Dean, Cary, Madi & Natalie Mandolado
 Guests
 Gene & Star Marshall B 2/319 FA
 Bruce & Carolyn McCorkle D 2/506
 Jim & Michelle McCoy D 1/506
 Ron & Linda McCrory E 2/506
 Pete & Christi Meloro C 2/506

Uwe & Diane Meyer B 2/506
 David Mitchell D 2/501
 Bob Pagano & Rachel Springer B 2/506
 Tom & Barbara Peacock D 2/506
 Philip Prince Guest
 Doug & Iris Puffer D 2/506
 Sam & Luree Rawlinson Assoc. Mem.
 John Rich Guest 2/319
 Bill Rose A 2/506
 Kent Rowland C&D 2/506
 Charles Schilero D 2/506
 George & Cheryl Scott A 2/11 FA
 Larry & Annabelle Sena A 2/506
 Fred Shuttleworth & Victoria Rayle E
 2/506
 Marc Skinner D 2/506
 Everett Slaughter, Jr. B 2/506
 James Smither Grand Valley State Univ.
 Fred & Micki Spaulding HHC 3rd BDE
 Terry Stanger A 159 ASHB
 Dennis & Jane Stortz D 2/506
 Bob Tarbuck & Paige Corkhill C 2/506
 Dale & Janet Tauer D 1/506
 Chris Pahissa Van Meerden A 2/506
 Bob & Jackie Wallace C 2/506
 Raulend Whiteis B 2/506
 Lee & Kathy Widjeskog A 2/506
 Mike & Liz Womack C 2/506
 Bob & Betty Worrall B 2/501
 David & Linda Yonts A 2/506
 David & Wendy Yonts Guests

The Women of Ripcord

Each year we try to get a good picture of all the women who come with the men of Ripcord. They have provided a strong foundation for the association and for the men. Many of these women have lived through the year in Viet Nam supporting and worrying about their loved ones. All the women were the ones who helped the men re-adjust to civilian life and surmount their memories. Since 2002, they have supported the association by bringing items for the Chinese Auction each year for the benefit of the association. The proceeds have allowed us to keep the registration fees stable since 2003. Thank you ladies!



Ladies in waiting



You want How Much for this book?