



Ripcord Association
2018
Myrtle Beach, SC
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



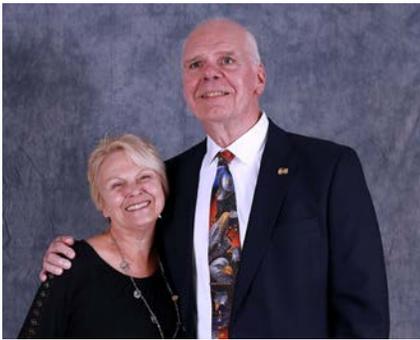
Lee Widjeskog
A/2-506
Secretary/Treasurer



Bill Boles
D/2-506



Jim McCoy
D/1-506



**IRENE & JIM (TINY) AANONSEN
A 2/506**



**TOMMY AGUON, TOMMY JR. &
RAY CRUZ A 2/506**



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



**RANDY, PAM, ADAM BALDWIN &
MEGHAN DANBY A 2/506**



**WAYNE & LORETTA BALL
A 2/506**



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



**CHARLES BERGER &
CHARLOTTE B/159 ASHB**



**TIM BOHAN & CATHY MYERS
GUEST D 1/506**



**FRANK BORT
C 2/506**



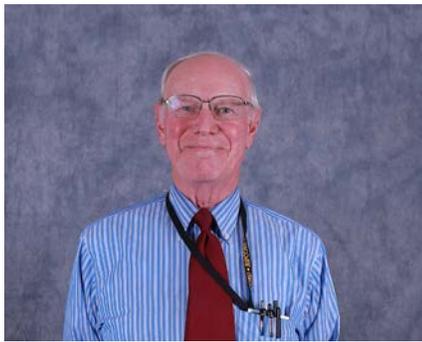
**BRUCE BRADY & EDWARD
RAMON A 2/506**



**JEROME BUFFINGTON
C 2/506**



**PAUL BUHR
A 2/506**



ALBERT P. BURCKARD, JR.
A 2/506



TEX CAMPBELL
D 2/506



JIM CAMPBELL
C 2/506



SUE & DALE COOPER
C 2/506



LISA HILL, TOMMY & JUDY
COUNTS, & D 2/506



KENNETH J. DAVID
D 1/506



CATHY JOBES &
FRANK DELFINO HHC 1/506



GARY DEWULF
GUEST PATHFINDERS



MICHAEL DEWULF
GUEST PATHFINDERS



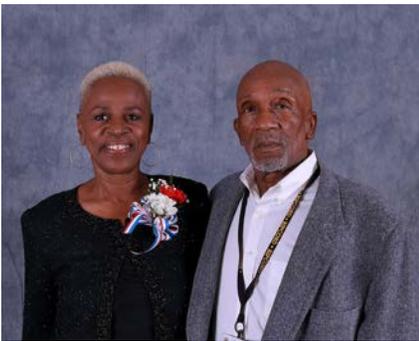
TOM DEWULF
GUEST PATHFINDERS



MICHAEL & CHRISTINE DICKEN
B 2/506



RUSSELL & MARYANN DIXON
B 2/319 FA



**BETHANY WITCHER & ALVIN
DODD D 2/506**



**KIM, CARNELL, & CHAD EVANS
B 2/319 FA**



**JOSEPH P. EVANS
A 2/506**



**CAROL & REX FLANSBURG
D 2/506**



**NICHOLAS & ANDREW FOTIAS
PATHFINDER**



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



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



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



**STEVE GUNN & PAUL NGUYEN
D 2/506**



**LYNN & BILL HAND
B 2/506**



**LAURA & PAUL HANSMANN
B 2/506**



**JIM (DOC) HARRIS
HHC 2/506**



**RAYMOND HINES
2/319 FA**



**MARY MEAGHER & JOHN HOCK
ASSOCIATE MEMBERS**



**JUDY & TERRY HODGES
D 1/506**



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



**DON & LINDA HOLTHAUSEN
C 2/506**



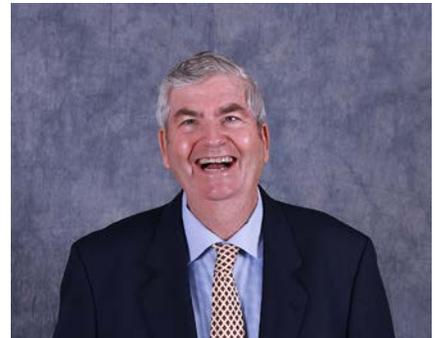
**MELINDA & STEVE HUGGINS
E 2/506**



**BUZZ IRELAND
C/159 ASHB**



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



**GARY KELLY
A 2/506**



**SOPHIA & DAVID KENYON
B 326 ENG**



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



**DALE LANE & DI ANE GROTE
A 2/506**



**WALTER & MARY LEWIS
B 2/319 FA**



**KOLEEN & TONY LITTLE
D 2/506**



**MIKE MACKAY
C/159 ASHB**



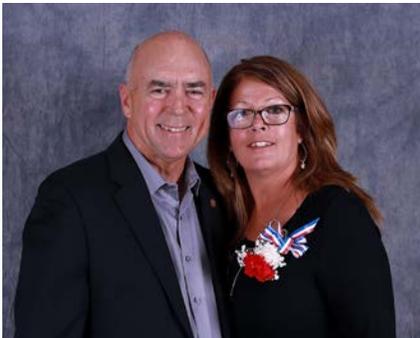
**PHYLLIS & MURPHY MAJORIA
ASSOCIATE MEMBERS**



**FRANK & DEE MARSHALL
A 2/506**



**ALFRED & SONDRAL MARTIN
A 2/11 FA**



**JAMES & MICHELLE McCOY
D 1/506**



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



**PETER & CHRIS MELORO C 2/506 &
ANDREA & MARK IYNCH GUESTS**



**UWE & DIANE MEYER
B 2/506**



**J. PAUL MEYER
C/159 ASHB**



**ANNETTE & THOMAS
MILITELLO A 2/11 FA**



**LEONARD, CAROL, & RUSSEL
MOORE Mini Cav / Thunder ops**



**RALF MOTTA
E 2/506**



**CLEM NEIDERER
HHC 2/501**



**PAUL NGUYEN
ARMY OF REP VIETNAM**



**ROBERT & RACHEL SPRINGER
B 2/506**



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



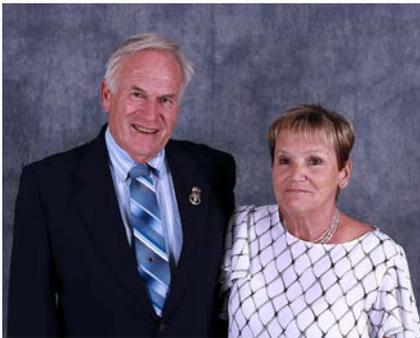
**ANGELA CROMER & CAMERON
A. PIATT GUEST A 2/506**



**RAY & SHEILA POTTS
B 2/319 FA**



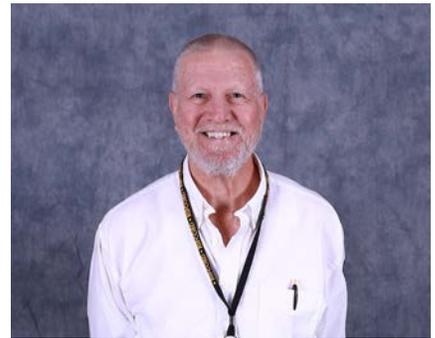
**IRIS & DOUGLAS PUFFER
D 2/506**



**GARY & PATTY RADFORD
D 2/506**



**JOHN RICH
GUEST B 2/319 FA**



**KENT ROWLAND
D 2/506**



**JOANN SCHMIDT & CHARLES
SCHILERO D 2/506**



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



**FRED SHUTTLEWORTH
E 2/506**



**MARC SKINNER
D 2/506**



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



**JIM SMITHER
Grand Valley St U Veterans History**



**LISA & DAVID SNYDER
A 2/11 FA**



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



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



**PAULETTE & GEORGE
STRASBURG D 2/506**



**JOHN P. TAMBURINI
B 2/319 FA**



**PAIGE CORKHILL, BOB
TARBUCK, BOB JR C 2/506**



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



**CHARLES TIPTON
C 2/506**



**SANDY & CRAIG VAN HOUT
B 2/506**



**RON & PATRICIA VIRGILIO
D 2/506**



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



**SUSAN & STEVE WALLACE
B 2/506**



**LEE & KATHY WIDJESKOG
A 2/506**



**DAVID & LINDA YONTS
A 2/506**



**DAVID & WENDY YONTS
GUESTS**



**JOE & AMBER YONTS
GUESTS**



**DAVID, LINDA, DAVID & WENDY
YONTS FAMILY**



RIPCORD FLAG



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



CHARLES BERGER B/159 ASHB



MIKE MACKEY C/159 ASHB



J. PAUL MEYER C/159 ASHB



THOMAS MILITELLO A 2/11 FA



JOHN TAMBURINI B 2/319 FA



GARY DEWOLF D 1/506



NICHOLAS FOTIAS PATHFINDER



ALBERT BURCKARD A 2/506



GARY KELLY A 2/506



WAYNE BALL A 2/506



TOMMY AGUON A 2/506



CAMERON PIATT A 2/506



TONY LITTLE D 2/506



JOHN MASON D 2/506



GEORGE STRASBURG D 2/506



RON VIRGILIO D 2/506



THUYET NGUYEN D 2/506



PAUL NGUYEN ARVN



MURPHY MAJORIA ASSOCIATE MEMBER



Unit Group Photos



3RD BRIGADE HHC



HHC 2/506



PATHFINDERS



A 2/506



B 2/506



C 2/506



D 2/506



E 2/506



B 326 ENGINEERS



159 ASHB



D 1/506



2/501



2/17 CAV



2/319 FIELD ARTILLERY



A 2/11 FIELD ARTILLERY

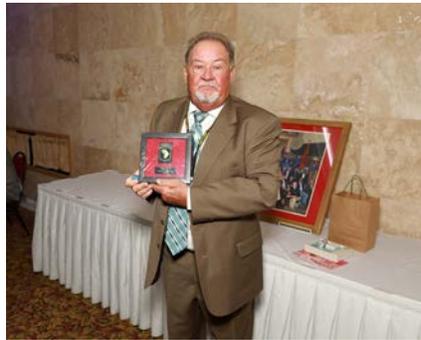
ANNA BRITT NOLAN FOUNDATION

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!



Alvin Dodd D 2/506



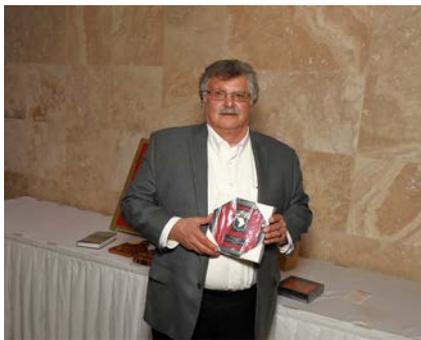
Wayne Ball A 2/506



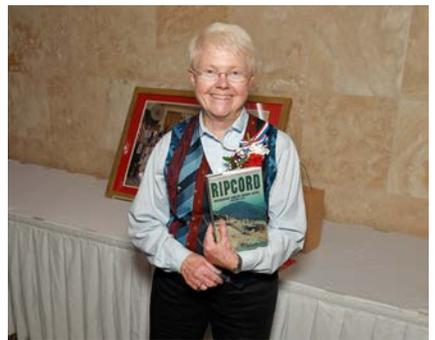
Thomas Militello A 2/11 FA



Ray Cruz Guest A 2/506



Murphy Majoria, Assoc.member



Pinkey Bashford D 2/506

2016 Golf Outing



Army style golf..."Hurry up and wait!"



I think we can go play now!?



Tony Little (D 2/506) came from Tennessee just to play.

HOSPITALITY ACTIVITY



Open for business.



First timers



The fly boys get together.



Nick Fotias brought his son to even the score.



Don's joke did not go well with his wife?



The captain reconnects with his RTO.



There is always something that strikes your fancy.



"Buzz"??? Is the name due to the can contents?



For Mary's first visit she looks skeptical!



Gary's visit adds yet another DeWulf brother to our roster.



Were the Yonts caught in the act?



This is what I've looked for ever since my last "C".



Dee brought Frankie to the reunion.



This table won big time!



The newbies won big on Friday.



The winner got the Saralyn Gainer quilt.



That really is me! I looked good those days!



These guys bring their own wine to avoid a shortage.



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!



Details....Details!



Just sitting and waiting to help