



# THE 13TH (C) ENGINEER

**“IN OMNIA PARATUS”**

**NEWSLETTER OF THE 13TH ENGINEER (C) BN.ASSN.**

**PRESIDENTS CORNER - ARLIE E. ELLIS**



**APRIL 2023**

I am writing to inform you that I have decided to step down from my position as President of the 13<sup>th</sup> Combat Engineer Bn. association. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve in this role, and I am grateful for the opportunity to have worked with such a dedicated and passionate group of individuals.

Due to personal reasons, I have found it increasingly difficult to fulfill my duties as President effectively. After careful consideration, I have concluded that it is in the best interests of the association that I resign from this position.

I want to assure you that I am committed to ensuring a smooth transition for my successor. I will work closely with the board and executive committee to provide any necessary support and assistance during this process.

I remain fully supportive of the association and its mission. I am confident that under new leadership, it will continue to thrive and make a positive impact in our community.

From Arlie in December 2016 when Arlie became president.

I want all members to know that I look forward to being your president, and that I will do my best to serve you. You are sharing the support and good wishes for success. Billy the past president has done a fantastic job for twelve years, six reunions, and I give him all my support in the future. The Governing Board of elected officers have also done a fantastic job Gene, Jes, Ron and Levi (Rabbit.) The Advisory Council and Reunion Board have given major support and organization to the success of our reunions throughout the years. Thomas Allen, Richard, Charles, Tom, Gene, and William (Bill) I support and serve you as president of the  
13TH ENGINEER (C) BN. ASSN.

**Table of Contents**

	<b>Page</b>
President Corner -----	01
Table of Contents -----	02
Governing Board Elected Officers & Announcement-----	03
Vice President Corner -----	04
Treasure Corner -----	05
Secretary Corner -----	06
As U.S. Troops Leave The Village Passes on -----	07
Bizarre things about the Korean War -----	08
A few pictures were sent in from a few members -----	09
A funny story about the Chinese Tunnel from 1960 ----	10
Newsletter Corner -----	11
Old Fart Pride -----	12
Webmaster Corner -----	13
Funny Story you Decide -----	14
Taps & New Members-----	15
Quartermaster Corner & Guestbook Entries -----	16
Quartermaster Products -----	17
Products Order Form -----	18
Association Membership Application-----	19
Back Page -----	20

**All Dues & Donations are TAX DEDUCTIBLE**

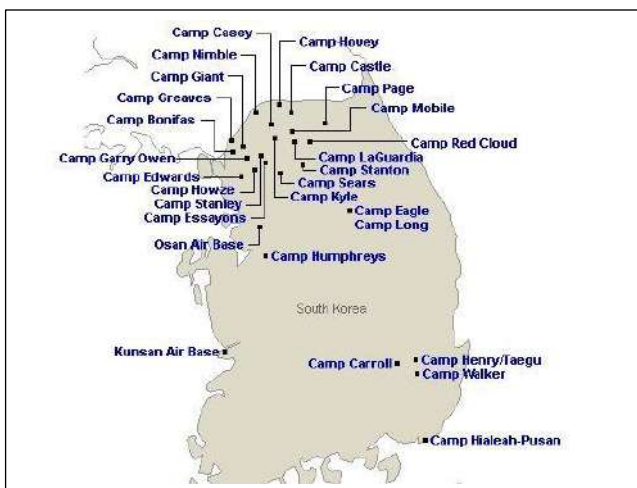
**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO  
13TH ENGR. (C) Bn. ASSOCIATION**

**MAIL CHECKS TO:  
Gene Reed, Treasurer  
8833 Prairie Trail  
Avon, Indiana 46123**



**Check your dues Expiration Date:  
The date listed on your shipping  
label is the year your Dues Expire.**

**1950:** Near Ipsok, Korea, Army Capt. Reginald B. Desiderio charges into the enemy, inflicting heavy casualties before being killed himself by enemy fire. Prior to his one-man assault, which ultimately repelled the fanatical enemy attack, Desiderio had been wounded twice and refused evacuation. Desiderio's replacement as company commander, Capt. Lewis L. Millett, will also be awarded the Medal of Honor - for a historic bayonet charge in February.



**GOVERNING BOARD ELECTED OFFICERS**

<p><b>PRESIDENT</b> Arlie E. Ellis "B" Company 65-66 825 Rose Street Crowley, TX, 76036 469-554-1324 essec5793@gmail.com</p>	<p><b>VICE PRESIDENT</b> Harry (Gene) Reed "E" Company 1970 8833 Prairie Trail Avon, IN 46123 317-268-6455 genereed@genereedins.com</p>	<p><b>IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT</b> Billy D. Quinton SR. "C" Company 50-51 3800 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue North St. Petersburg, FL 33713 727-430-7959 bquinton@tampabay.rr.com</p>
<p><b>TREASURER</b> Harry (Gene) Reed "E" Company 1970 8833 Prairie Trail Avon, IN 46123 317-268-6455 genereed@genereedins.com</p>	<p>13TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION ASSOCIATION</p>  <p>7TH INFANTRY DIVISION</p>	<p><b>SECRETARY</b> Earl C. Shatzer "HQ" Company 67-68 1962 Tanglewood Ln. Vacaville, CA 95687 707-689-0874 shatzer@pacbell.net</p>

**ADVISORY COUNCIL**

<p><b>ADVISOR</b> Levi O. Haire – (Rabbit) "H&amp;S" Company 49-51 358 Windgate Road Ellijay, GA 30540 706-635-2528 rabbit713e@ellijay.com</p>	<p><b>CHAPLAIN</b> Currently Vacant</p> <p>If you would like to be considered for this position or know someone that would please contact a board member listed on this page.</p>	<p><b>QUARTER MASTER</b> Tom Cotton "D" Company 58-59 101 N. David Ln. #508 Muskogee, OK 74403-5034 918-931-8525 tcottonbo@gmail.com</p>
<p><b>NEWSLETTER EDITOR</b> Earl Shatzer "HQ" Company 67-68 1962 Tanglewood Ln. Vacaville, CA 95687 707-689-0874 shatzer@pacbell.net</p>	<p><b>CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE</b></p> <p><a href="https://13thengineerbn.com/">https://13thengineerbn.com/</a></p>	<p><b>WEBMASTER</b> Earl Shatzer "HQ" Company 67-68 1962 Tanglewood Ln. Vacaville, CA 95687 707-689-0874 shatzer@pacbell.net</p>

**INFORMAL GET TOGETHER EVENT SEPTEMBER 2023 HUNTSVILLE AL.**

We have finalized the informal get together for Huntsville AL. for September 20-22, 2023. Some of us will be coming in early in the week so if you want to join us, we welcome you. Planning on the Space and Rocket Center for the 21<sup>st</sup>. The Rocket center is \$30.00 per person and is a short distance from the Hotel.

Hotel information: Room rate \$119.00 plus tax.

When reserving you room let them know you are with the **13<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion Association Group** for the discounted room rate.

Holiday Inn Express Huntsville – Space Center  
5101 Governors House Drive SW, Huntsville, AL 35805  
Holiday Inn direct phone: 256-562-3400

The deadline for hotel registration at the \$119.00 a night rate is **September 1, 2023.** If there is any issues in registration ask for Roger Lewis or hotel manager Jennifer.

If you have any questions, please contact:  
Earl Shatzer at 707-689-0874 or email [shatzer@pacbell.net](mailto:shatzer@pacbell.net) or  
Gene Reed at 317-268-6455 or email [genereed@genereedins.com](mailto:genereed@genereedins.com)

**VICE PRESIDENT'S CORNER- HARRY E. (GENE) REED**

Well, we are putting together another informal get together this year. It will be in the month of September. We are going to Huntsville Alabama this time. Buddy Beckwith has done a great job putting together hotel location and some site seeing. I am looking forward to visiting Huntsville Alabama and all it has to offer. See details on page 3 of this newsletter.

If you are planning to go, please send us a note via email or text so we can get an idea of how many will be coming.

I hope to see you there.

Let us know we are always open to any ideas or suggestion. Just contact Earl Shatzer (707-689-0874) or myself at my contact information listed below.

Thank You

**(ENGINEERS CLEAR THE WAY)**

Keep the Faith

IN OMNIA PARATUS (In All Things Prepared)

(Engineers Clear the Way)

**Gene Reed (317) 268-6455**  
**Vice President**  
**13<sup>th</sup> Engineer (C) Battalion Association**

**Membership Keeps the 13<sup>th</sup> Engineer (C) Battalion Association GOING****An old AOL Joke**

A man was mowing his lawn when his female blonde neighbor came out of her house and went straight to the mailbox. She opened it looked inside, slammed it shut and went storming back into her house. A little bit later she came back outside opened the mailbox then slammed it shut and then angrily went back into the house. As the man was getting ready to edge his lawn here, she came again, she marched right up to that mailbox opened it and then slammed it harder than ever. Puzzled by her actions the man asked her is something wrong.

To which she replied there certainly is my stupid computer keeps telling me I've got mail.

**TREASURE'S CORNER= HARRY (GENE) REED**



As of 3/16/2023 our current account balance is \$8,305.19. Once again if you are not sure if your dues are paid up contact Earl Shatzer or myself. Once again, I want to give a big thank you to the many members that have made donations to the association.

If you have any questions concerning the association's finances, please feel free to ask me. As the treasurer, it is my responsibility to ensure that the association's finances are managed properly and transparently. I will do my best to provide you with accurate and timely information and address any concerns you may have. Let me know how I can be of assistance.

The below chart shows the deposits and expenses for the calendar year 2022

January 2022 Through December 2022			
Deposits		Expenses	
<b>Dues</b>	\$665.00	<b>Newsletter</b>	\$1,049.07
<b>Donations</b>	\$1,025.00	<b>Stamps</b>	\$10.95
<b>QM Sales</b>	\$277.29	<b>Website</b>	\$120.00
		<b>Trailer</b>	\$0.00
		<b>QM Supplies</b>	\$589.50
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,967.29</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,769.52</b>

Engineers Clear the Way  
 Gene Reed- Treasure  
 317-268-6455  
[genereed@genereedins.com](mailto:genereed@genereedins.com)

Gene Reed- Treasure 317-268-6455 <a href="mailto:genereed@genereedins.com">genereed@genereedins.com</a>	Earl Shatzer – Secretary 707-689-0874 <a href="mailto:shatzer@pacbell.net">shatzer@pacbell.net</a>
---	--

**1949:** The Sikorsky H-19 "Chickasaw" helicopter makes its first flight. The Army and Air Force will order dozens of the helicopters and use them for medical evacuation and rescue operations during the Korean War.



## **Secretary Corner – Earl Shatzer**

Please check your dues status on the shipping label of your newsletter. If your status date is **2023** or later, please submit your membership dues.

### **Example of updated address label.**

I used my address as the example:

HQ Co, 67-68	2026 (Dues Expire)
Earl C. Shatzer	
1962 Tanglewood Ln.	
Vacaville CA 95687	

Dues are \$5.00 per year (paid two years at a time) usually on even years. Membership includes Newsletters 3 times a year, April, August, and December (approximately 20 pages).

Currently we have 108 members on our roster including Honorary and Associate members. We have the following past due members 3 expired in 2020, 3 members expired in 2021, 26 members expired in 2022, 7 members will expire in 2023, 47 members' dues will expire in 2024. 16 members dues expire after 2024.

Member dues and donations ensure our ability to publish the newsletter and help cover our operating expenses. When sending a donation along with your dues, please indicate the amount of your donation.

If you have any questions concerning your membership, please contact me at the information listed below.

### **PLEASE SEND ANY ADDRESS CHANGES OR CORRECTIONS TO:**

Earl Shatzer - Secretary  
1962 Tanglewood Ln.  
Vacaville, CA 95687  
707-689-0874 Or Email

[shatzer@pacbell.net](mailto:shatzer@pacbell.net) or [eshatzer@13thengineerbn.com](mailto:eshatzer@13thengineerbn.com)

### **THE KOREAN FLAG WAR**

George Carlin famously compared war to "a whole lot of men standing out in a field" and waving their pocket rockets at each other (metaphorically, of course) to compensate for insecurity about the size of their weapons. That would certainly explain why ceasefire talks during the Korean War got derailed by a fight over (literal) flagpole size.

Ceasefire negotiations started in 1951, and as the Atlantic reported, North Korea desperately wanted to look strong. During one session, North Korea's lead negotiator spent two hours and 11 minutes staring at a U.S. vice admiral and silently chain-smoking. The legs of the admiral's chair were also shortened to make the negotiator appear taller. North Korean General Lee Sang Cho let flies crawl over his face as a show of "iron self-control." But all absurdity broke loose when the North Koreans noticed that the UN flag on the conference table was bigger than theirs.

Evidently feeling emasculated, North Korea brought out a bigger flag. Then South Korea whipped out an even bigger flag, triggering history's most Freudian conflict. According to the Independent, North and South Korea kept one-upping each other until neither nation's flags fit inside the conference room. The countries continued their flagpole fight in the demilitarized zone.

Eventually, South Korea erected a 323-foot pole, and the North responded with 525-foot pole, which for a time was the tallest on Earth.

## As U.S. Troops Leave / The Village Passes on / 1968 News Paper Stars and Strips.

Traveling along the western forward area. One sees everywhere the results of the decades long “collaborating” between the two different peoples, their culture and their energy.

Now it is said that one side of the two is leaving and an overall reshaping is foreseen in the local communities besides that of the military positions in this generally flat area north of Seoul.

Since the American forces were “permanently” stationed in this area following the war, an entirely different form of society has been established.

Light-blue barracks and Quonset huts were built here and there at the foot of hills burnt in the gunfire of the three-year war. Double barbed-wire fences and watch towers were erected around the “camps,” “forts” or whatever they were called.

Despite the unfriendly-looking fences and off-limits signs, people gathered around the camps. They were mostly former residents of the area who had lost their houses in the war and refugees from north Korea.

MPC (U.S. military payment certificates) and PX diverted goods have become their

primary source of living. Not only, trash left-over food from the camps and even shell fragments from the firing ranges helped them survive day by day.

Because the U.S. Army camps were positioned mostly away from arable land, the camp-side villages include few farmers, who are the principal inhabitants in other communities.

### Pidgin English

The immigrants opened various businesses – cabarets/bawdy houses, bed sellers, souvenir shops. VD clinics and “marriage offices.” Which are seldom found in other ordinary country towns.

Pidgin English has become part of their language, and even their Korean has developed in a queer way due to the mixture of dialects from all parts of the country.

The taxi-drivers also taught the GIs to call them “hey, chin gu.”

The terrain has also changed. Roads were opened up to the hilltops and bridges were built of concrete or on pontoons. Some had Inscriptions such as “Constructed by I Corps Engineers” and others “ROK Army Field Engineer Group.”

Showing the cooperation of the two peoples in a military way.

Another form of people-to-people relations was seen in the U.S. Army unit’s assistance to Korean orphanages. The GIs supported the children’s homes with money, food and clothing shipped from their own hometowns and enjoyed breaks in their routine duty by visiting the orphanages.

In the meantime, some businessmen in the U.S. camp-side villages have made a fortune and left for Seoul and other cities to lead a more usual life. But the less fortunate have stayed there so far until these days of all bad news.

Now a race has already started to leave the place before others. Clubs, shops and houses are being put on sale but they are all supply and no demand.

Rumors prevail among the villagers as to which unit will be withdrawn and some try to comfort themselves with the explanation that not all the GIs are leaving anyway.

But all the inhabitants of the western forward seem to be fully aware that a disintegration of this unique type of community in Korea is imminent.

## **BIZARRE THINGS ABOUT THE KOREAN WAR**

The conflict permanently altered North Korea, which became an isolated, dystopian twilight zone governed by batty dictators. Current autocrat Kim Jong-un is so paranoid that he travels with a portable toilet so no one can analyze his poop. His father/predecessor, Kim Jong-il, claimed he didn't poop at all and bragged about impossible accomplishments. Yet their jarring oddness pales in comparison to the outlandish details of the conflict that shaped the Hermit Kingdom.

### **THE PSYCHOTIC SPYMASTER WHO DECIDED THE WAR'S OUTCOME**

Of all the major players in the forgotten war, Donald Nichols might be the one America tried hardest to forget. A seventh-grade dropout from an impoverished background, Nichols only joined the military because civilian life was so rough, per the Seattle Times. His knack for languages and complete lack of conscience helped him gain favor with South Korean strongman Syngman Rhee. Nichols attended torture sessions by South Korean police, according to historians, and even posed for a photo with a detached human head. Cold and calculating, he would make himself indispensable to U.S. and South Korean forces during the war.

Thanks to a North Korean defector with stolen military codebooks, Nichols had the means to decipher enemy communications and foil their operations. Rather than sharing that crucial info with intelligence agencies, he formed his own group of codebreakers, forcing the U.S. and South Korea to rely on him. He helped determine which targets to bomb and warned about planned North Korean attacks. Because of how important he was, Nichols literally got away with murder. When subordinates disagreed with him, he shoved them out of airplanes and off of boats. He even had a shoot-out with his own agents. After the war the U.S. military got sick of Nichols and had him placed in a straitjacket and subjected to months of electroshock therapy.

### **NORTH KOREA KIDNAPPED MORE THAN 80,000 SOUTH KOREANS**

Kim Il-sung was the granddaddy of North Korean insanity in that he was the country's first dictator, he was Kim Jong-un's grandfather, and he was insane. During the Korean War, he orchestrated the abduction of an estimated 84,000 South Koreans. To be clear, these weren't prisoners of war or deemed enemies in any way. Rather, as the New Yorker explained, Kim Il-sung longed to "compensate for the mass exodus" that occurred when Japan occupied the Korean peninsula and tried to assimilate Korean people into Japanese culture. After World War II, Japan was ousted, North and South Korea were formed, and the newly formed rivals competed to see which could establish itself as the "legitimate homeland" of the Korean people.

After the 1953 armistice, North Korea continued its forced repopulation project, primarily abducting South Korean fisherman. This went on for decades, and Reuters reported that South Korea scarcely acknowledged the kidnappings for fear of angering its ornery northern neighbor. Over time, other foreign nationals were targeted. Between 1977 and 1983, North Korea kidnapped somewhere between 20 and 100 Japanese citizens, often hauling them away from their homeland in sacks.

Prisoners were forced to train North Koreans to pass as foreigners for espionage operations or conduct spy missions themselves. U.S. Sergeant Charles Jenkins, who was trapped in North Korea for 39 years after attempting to seek asylum, claimed North Korea had a spy-breeding program that involved having prisoners produce interracial children with Koreans.

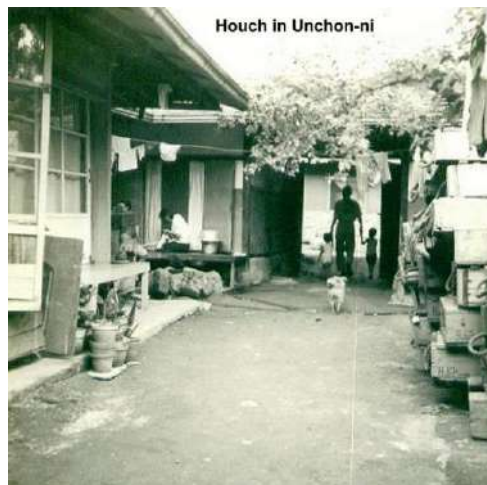
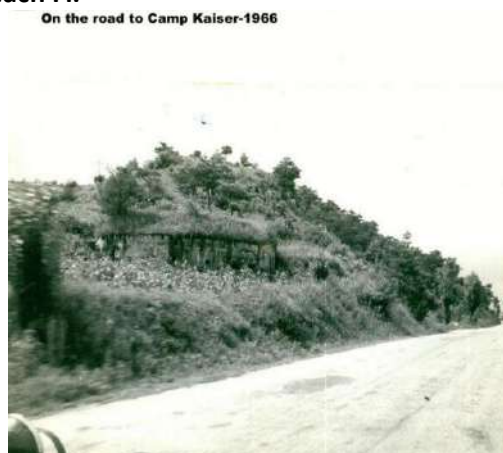


**A few pictures were sent in from a few members.**

The below two are from Robert Julian



From Russell Ruth Daytona Beach Fl.



### A funny story about the Chinese Tunnel from 1960.

I was a cocky 18-year-old PFC Truck Driver. I drove from Camp Casey to Camp Kaiser a couple times a week.

The protocol for going through the Tunnel, was to slow down with your window open so you could hear anyone coming from the other direction, blow your horn 3 times to alert anyone coming from the other way that you were entering the tunnel. Well, I did this every time, and it worked great, till one day. I did everything as always, and was just about coming out of the tunnel, when a ROK Army truck pulled up. A ROK Lt climbed out, pointing for me to back out, so he could go through. I climbed out of my truck and began some GI sign language and explained to him that I did what was proper and was exiting the tunnel.

He pointed to his little 2 diamonds, indicating a 1st Lt, and that I should back out. I told him that if he did not move, I would climb into my truck, and Push him all the way to Pyongyang. He started calling me all kinds of Sickias, turned around and went back to the truck he was riding in, and was screaming at his Driver. They backed up to the side of the road, and I climbed in, and proceeded out of the tunnel. As I drove past them, I waved, and went on my way.

For you guys that never went through it, or seen it in the early days, It was only one way through the tunnel, and you had to be very careful on the road on the northeast side of it.

The tunnel is now a tourist site, though still well guarded.

Visitors enter either by walking down a long steep incline that starts in a lobby with a gift shop or via a rubber-tyred train that contains a driver at the front or the back (depending on the direction as there is only one set of rails) and padded seats facing forward and backwards in rows for up to three passengers each. Photography is forbidden within the tunnel. The South Koreans have blocked the actual Military Demarcation Line in the tunnel with three concrete barricades. Tourists can walk as far as the third barricade, and the second barricade is visible through a small window in the third.

#### THE WAR'S UNDERAGE SOLDIERS

Do you remember what you were doing when you were 12 years old? Calvin Graham does — he was serving on the USS South Dakota. It was 1942, and he dropped out of seventh grade to head off to basic training. He served in the Naval Battle of Guadalcanal, and said, "I took belts off the dead and made tourniquets for the living." He'd just turned 13.

Graham's story wasn't a happy one, and the Smithsonian says after the Navy found out how old he was, he was stripped of his medals, served some time in the brig, and was kicked out of the military without an honorable discharge. It took until 1994 to get benefits and medals returned to his family — he died in 1992.

He was just one of the so-called Baby Vets who grew up way too soon. Jack Lucas was 14 when he lied his way into the military and became the youngest Medal of Honor recipient (at 17) for his actions at Iwo Jima (via The Seattle Times). Britain's Roy Bradshaw was given the Legion d'Honneur medal for his actions during D-Day, when he was 16 (via The Telegraph). And the BBC reported on the identification of Britain's youngest wartime casualty: Reginald Earnshaw. He died when he was 14 years old and serving on the SS North Devon.

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR - EARL C. SHATZER**



As the newsletter editor I enjoy my role in creating and delivering quality content that is interesting and engages and informs our members about the Korean War.

Your membership dues (\$5.00 per year) are used to help cover the costs of producing and distributing the newsletter, including the printing, and mailing cost, along with other operational cost such as website hosting and maintenance of the website.

Any ideas or suggestions on what subject you would like for me to research and print an article on please let me know using the contact information below.

Newsletter Editor  
Earl Shatzer  
1962 Tanglewood LN.  
Vacaville, CA 95687  
Email: [eshatzer@13thengineerbn.com](mailto:eshatzer@13thengineerbn.com)  
(707) 689-0874.

**STORIES FROM KOREAN WAR VETERANS**

1. Bill Maudlin: Bill Maudlin was an American soldier who served during the Korean War. He was also a cartoonist, and his comics provided a window into the experiences of soldiers on the front lines. Maudlin's work captured the humor, frustration, and tragedy of war, and helped to humanize the soldiers who fought in it.
2. Dick Adams: Dick Adams was a US Marine who served during the Korean War. He was part of a platoon that was surrounded and cut off by enemy forces. Adams and his fellow Marines were forced to fight their way out, and he was wounded multiple times in the process. Despite his injuries, Adams continued to fight until he and his comrades were rescued.
3. Margaret Corbin: Margaret Corbin was a Revolutionary War veteran who lived long enough to witness the start of the Korean War. Although she didn't serve in Korea, her story is a reminder of the sacrifices made by veterans throughout history. Corbin fought alongside her husband during the Revolutionary War and was wounded multiple times. She was one of the first women to receive a military pension for her service.
4. Joseph O. Sobieski: Joseph O. Sobieski was a US Army veteran who served during the Korean War. He was part of a combat engineering unit that was responsible for clearing mines and building bridges. Sobieski and his fellow soldiers worked under extremely dangerous conditions, and many were wounded or killed in the line of duty. Despite the challenges, Sobieski remained dedicated to his mission and his fellow soldiers.

# OLD FART PRIDE

I never really liked the terminology "Old Farts"??  
but this makes me feel better about it. And if you ain't one, I bet ya you know one!  
I got this from an "Old Fart" friend of mine!

## OLD FART PRIDE

I am passing this on as I did not want to be the only old fart receiving it. Actually, it's not a bad thing to be called, as you will see.

1. Old Farts are easy to spot at sporting events, during the playing of the National Anthem. Old Farts remove their caps and stand at attention and sing without embarrassment. They know the words and believe in them.
2. Old Farts remember World War II, Pearl Harbor, Guadalcanal, Normandy and Hitler. They remember the Atomic Age, the Korean War, The Cold War, the Jet Age and the Moon Landing. They remember the 50 plus Peacekeeping Missions from 1945 to 2005, not to mention Vietnam.
3. If you bump into an Old Fart on the sidewalk he will apologize. If you pass an Old Fart on the street, he will nod or tip his cap to a lady. Old Farts trust strangers and are courtly to women.
4. Old Farts hold the door for the next person and always, when walking, make certain the lady is on the inside for protection.
5. Old Farts get embarrassed if someone curses in front of women and children and they don't like any filth or dirty language on TV or in movies.
6. Old Farts have moral courage and personal integrity. They seldom brag unless it's about their children or grandchildren.
7. It's the Old Farts who know our great country is protected, not by politicians but by the young men and women in the military serving their country.

This country needs Old Farts with their work ethic, sense of responsibility, pride in their country, and decent values.

We need them now more than ever.

### **Thank God for Old Farts!**

Pass this on to all the "Old Farts" you know. I was taught to respect my elders. It's just getting harder to find them.

**1952:** When a battalion of Chinese troops attacked a Marine outpost on Korea's "Bunker Hill," Pvt. 1st Class Alford L. McLaughlin rained down fire on the communists from two machineguns, which he fired from the hip. When the weapons would overheat, he would switch to his carbine and grenades. Although wounded and enduring painful burns from the hot barrels, he kept up his stand and by battle's end, accounted for some 150 dead Chinese soldiers and another fifty wounded. For his actions, McLaughlin was awarded the Medal of Honor.



**WEBMASTER - EARL C. SHATZER**

As the webmaster my responsibilities are the maintenance and upkeep of our website. I am involved in the designing and updating of the website. I ensure that the website is running smoothly, with no broken links or errors.

I manage the website backups to ensure that the data is not lost in case of a website crash. My most important responsibility is to make sure that the website is protected against security attacks and ensure that it remains secure and accessible to our users.

We have installed on our website security scanner software for protection against the latest exploits, detection for the newest malware, and the ability to block malicious IP addresses currently attacking WordPress sites. Prior to installing the updated version of this software, we were experiencing many attempts to sign into the membership area of our website these attempts were from countries other than the U.S. we are able now to block countries that we identify so they no longer can see our website.

If you have any ideas on what information you may want to see on the website, or ways to find the information and content easier, please contact me.

**Earl Shatzer Webmaster**  
707-689-0874 or [shatzer@pacbell.net](mailto:shatzer@pacbell.net)

#### Korean War Facts

Not until 8 February 1948 did the "North Korean People's Army" come into official being with the activation of the 1st, 2d and 3d Infantry Divisions. At that time there were some 30,000 troops and 170,000 trainees in North Korea, according to later United States Army intelligence estimates.

#### A True Story

During a family gathering we were discussing what my daughter did one night when I was out late at a dinner event with a group that I am part of. I received a text from my daughter that said Dad It's late. I replied yes, I know I am headed home now.

She said Okay, safe travels call me if you get tired driving home. Its wet outside so be careful. A little while later I was almost home and I got a text saying "Your almost home, I can go to sleep now. Been watching your location. Love you dad.

My grandson was listening and said Grandpa you know what she did to me. When I was still living at home, and I was walking, and she texted me and said be sure you look both ways before you cross the street.

If they only had the tracking, they have today when we were in Korea.



## Funny Story (Is it true?)

This is one of the many little stories about what happened during the early years in Korea, and the GIs that were stationed there. This one happens to be about me, when I was a 17-year-old PFC.

One night during my 1st tour up at Camp Casey in Fall of 1960, I was in a hooch well south of the main area of TDC. We had Bed Check back then, and Curfew at Midnight.

I woke up about 10 mins to twelve, and jumped into my Wool OGs, that we had to wear, and boots and took off running for the gate across the rice paddies on the little paths. As I was making a turn on top of the paddies, I slipped and landed into one of the pits they pumped all the stuff from the Honey Bucket trucks into. I went in all the way except my head. Took me a while to get out, and the MPs had closed the Gates when I got there. As I walked up to the gate, stuff from the rice paddy was still falling off me. They asked me why I was late and what was that smell? As I was telling them, I was getting my wallet to show my ID and Pass. He said he was not touching them, and for me to get walking to my unit.

When I got to my unit, I went straight to the latrine and showered with my clothes on, then pulled them off and showered again. I walked nude from the latrine to my Quonset Hut, hung the OGs on the mop rack outside and went in, put some clean underwear on, and went to bed.

The next morning when the Platoon Sgt. woke us up, he wanted to know why my stinking OGs were on his mop rack? As I started telling him, he got laughing so hard, he could hardly talk. Finally, he asked if I had gotten written up? When I told him the MP said he would of, but I stunk too bad to go into the MP Station. He told me to go take another shower and get some clean linen from the Supply Room.

I did a lot of work around the Platoon Area in the evenings for a week after that. My House Boy tried to get the smell out of the Wool OGs but ended up exchanging them at CIF. That is what you call a Shitty Story.

### **THE OFFICIAL U.S. DEATH TOLL WAS WAY TOO HIGH FOR DECADES**

The Korean War had an enormous death toll. As many as 5 million people perished, and the Koreas lost about 10 percent of their civilian populations, according to History. Until 2000, the official U.S. death toll was listed as 54,246, a number literally etched in granite on the Korean War Veterans Memorial. That figure was entirely too high. We don't mean that morally or philosophically. We're talking about the gap between the stated number and what the evidence indicates. By that metric, the actual death toll was 36,516. In other words, the official tally was almost 50 percent too high for a half century.

How was it so wrong for so long? In a baffling clerical error that apparently went unnoticed, the death toll included fatalities from around the world, often from places as far away as Germany and the U.S., per the Washington Post. Despite the disparate locations, excluding the deaths proved controversial. Some Korean War veterans took felt it devalued the already overlooked sacrifices of those who fought in the Forgotten War.



## HONORING THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED



All of us in the 13<sup>th</sup> Engineer (C) Battalion Association extend our sincere sympathy to the families and friends of those listed below. May they rest in peace.



**Maynard C. Crampton JR.**  
5-1-1935 – 12-16-2022  
"C" Co. 58-59



**Robert C. Jones**  
8-20-1933 – 8-14-2020  
"H&S" Co. 53-54



**Marvin W. Feakes**  
7-12-1938 – 1-3-2022  
"C" Co. 57-58



Remembering those that have given your all. Your sacrifice will never be forgotten. The deceased are now legends of war that are honored by various memorials around the world. Their sacrifices will never be forgotten. They fought for what was right and risked everything that they had. Everyone should realize that the way the world is morphed today is because of the soldiers who stood up to evil. Respect and be thankful for them.

Jes David McIver Obituary  
Past Treasure of the 13<sup>th</sup> Engineer Association  
H&S "B" company  
February 1952 – April 1953 was a 1<sup>st</sup> Lt.



Jes served as Treasure for the 13<sup>th</sup> Combat Engineer Association from December 2005 through August 2018. Jes maintained all financial transactions, creating and maintaining financial statements and reports, managing budgets and cash flow, kept the financial records and maintained accounting for all funds, assets, and liabilities of the Association. Also providing and advice to the Association's leadership.

Jes David McIver was born December 2, 1929, in Whitewright, Texas. On March 30, 2023, after struggling and enduring dementia for several years passed away.

Jes graduated from Honey Grove High School in 1947 and Texas A&M University in 1951 with a degree in Civil Engineering.

Jes proudly served his country in the Korean War.

## **QUARTERMASTER - TOM COTTON**



Our organization is experiencing a challenge in finding new vendors to purchase military memorabilia from at an affordable price to pass on to our members.

The current inventory is dwindling, and we have purchased inventories from other organizations that have had excess or not needed the inventory any longer. If any of you know of anyone in your neck of the woods that make military memorabilia, let me or one of our board members know.

Please check out our online order form where you can use PayPal or send in a check if PayPal does not work for you.

Have a blessed Spring and hope you are making plans for our mini reunion in Huntsville, Al, looking forward to seeing old friends and would like to meet some new ones.

Just want to say going to the last get together in Oklahoma was such a joy I am looking forward to this coming September gathering in Huntsville Alabama.

Thanks, Tom

### **QUARTER MASTER**

Tom Cotton

“D” Company 58-59

101 N. David Ln. #508

Muskogee, OK 74403-5034

### **GUESTBOOK ENTRIES**

The Guestbook on our website, gives you a fast and easy way to send a greeting, report a problem, an opportunity to express your opinions, offer suggestions about our website, tell us something about you and where you served, and ask questions.

We encourage you to browse the guestbook entries and post one of your own.

#### **Richard Coffey 03/22/2023**

I was in B company 13th engineers stationed next to the 79th. Artillery in Tongduchon and was exposed to Agent Orange. I received a 100% disability this was 1969 to 1970.

#### **Robert N. Choporis 02/20/2023**

Served in battalion April '65 to May '66. Platoon leader in C company for 2 months, then ADM platoon Cmdr. For 9 months and HHC Company Commander for 2 months before rotation back to USA. Battalion Commander was Harvey C. Jones. Would like to touch base with anyone I served with During that time. Cordially yours, Bob

#### **Glenn W Stevens 01/08/2023**

Served in B Co as a heavy equipment operator in 62-63. This was my first duty station after Advanced Individual Training (AIT). During that time B Co moved north. I do not remember the name of the camp. I did work on the road from which you could see the Chosin Reservoir in North Korea.

#### **Sp4 David Weaver 12/22/2022**

Miss everyone always



# QUARTERMASTER - TOM COTTON



**CAP - BLACK NEW STYLE \$25.00**



**COMBAT ENGINEER PIN LARGE 3" X 1" \$9.00**



**COMBAT ENGINEER PIN SMALL 1 1/2" X 1/2" \$9.00**



**LAPEL PIN 1" \$5.00**



**13TH ENGINEER BATTALION UNIT CREST PIN 1 1/8"H X 1"W \$10.00**



**13TH ENGINEER METAL LICENSE PLATE 6" X 12" \$10.00**



**7TH INFANTRY BAYONET PIN \$9.00**



**ASSOCIATION PATCH \$3.00**



**\$10.00**

Front

1 3/4" Diameter

Back

TO ORDER ANY OF THESE ITEMS  
PLEASE USE THE PRODUCT ORDER FORM ON NEXT PAGE  
Currently only mail in checks are accepted.  
Orders using our website can accept PayPal.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO

13<sup>TH</sup> ENGR. (C) BN. ASSOCIATION

MAIL TO:  
TOM COTTON  
101 N DAVID LN. #508  
MUSKOGEE OK, 74403-5034

Utilize this order form to send in your order of product.



## Product Order Form

You are now able to order product from the website and pay using credit card via PayPal

Submitted by	
Phone	
Email	
Address	
City/State/Zip	

TO ORDER PLEASE FILL OUT THIS FORM  
 MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO  
 13<sup>TH</sup> ENGR. (C) BN. ASSOCIATION  
 MAIL TO:  
 TOM COTTON  
 101 N DAVID LN. #508  
 MUSKOGEE OK, 74403-5034

Item	Description	Quantity	Unit Price	Amount
1	Cap – Black New Style		\$25.00	
2	Combat Engineer Pin Large 3” x 1”		\$9.00	
3	Combat Engineer Pin Small 1 ½” x ½”		\$9.00	
4	Lapel Pin 1”		\$5.00	
5	13 <sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion Unit Crest Pin 1 1/8” H x 1” W		\$10.00	
6	13 <sup>th</sup> Engineer Metal License Plate 6” x 12”		\$10.00	
7	7 <sup>th</sup> Infantry Bayonet Pin		\$9.00	
8	Association Patch		\$3.00	
9	13 <sup>th</sup> Engineer Custom Battalion Coin 1 ¾” Diameter		\$10.00	

**Total**

\_\_\_\_\_



IF YOU KNOW OF ANY PRIOR 13<sup>TH</sup> ENGINEER INDIVIDUALS THAT ARE NOT MEMBERS, PLEASE PASS THIS APPLICATION TO THEM AND ASK THEM TO JOIN

THEY CAN ALSO GO TO OUR WEBSITE <https://13thengineerbn.com/> AND CLICK ON THE MEMBER APPLICATION BUTTON ON THE HOME PAGE.



DATE \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS/ST. \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

13<sup>TH</sup> ENGINEER COMPANY SERVED WITH \_\_\_\_\_

**DATES SERVED IN 13<sup>TH</sup> ENGINEERS**

**FROM \_\_\_\_\_ TO \_\_\_\_\_**

SPOUSES NAMES \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE NUMBER / INCLUDE AREA CODE (    ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

**DUES ARE \$5.00 PER YEAR PAYABLE TWO (2) YEARS AT A TIME,  
OR FROM - REUNION TO REUNION**

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO; 13TH ENGR. (C) Bn. ASSOCIATION**

**MAIL CHECKS TO = Gene Reed, Treasurer  
8833 Prairie Trail, Avon, Indiana 46123**

**Or email me at: [genereed@genereedins.com](mailto:genereed@genereedins.com)**

**Website: <https://13thengineerbn.com/>**

13<sup>th</sup> Engineer (C) Bn. Assn.  
Attn: Newsletter Editor  
1962 Tanglewood Ln.  
Vacaville, CA 95687

Return Service Requested



#### Objectives

To preserve and strengthen the bonds of friendship and camaraderie among members through reunions, meetings, publications, and other social activities, to honor, revere and pay homage to the memory of those gallant comrades who paid the supreme sacrifice while serving in the 13<sup>th</sup> Engineer (C) Bn. To enhance at every opportunity and by example spread those truths contained in the Constitution of the United States, love of country and flag, respect for human rights and due respect for law and order, to strive for the accuracy and correction of any official histories published concerning any campaign in which the battalion participated in, if in the opinion of the association they are in error, to support the activities of the 13<sup>th</sup> Engineer (C) Battalion and to honor the annually selected non-commissioned officer and soldier of the year of the battalion in an appropriate manner.

TO ALL WHO SERVED

Those who served before us  
Those who served with us  
Those who served after us  
AND ESPECIALLY  
Those who gave their lives

