

# 1958 CLASS NOTES

## Vietnam War Memorial Service

5/29/2020



May 24,2020

When the coronavirus precluded the class holding its annual Vietnam War

Memorial service honoring our classmates who died in the Vietnam War, **Alan Salisbury** organized and led a Zoom based service from his home office. 83 classmates, plus many spouses and widows, attended.

*Photo: Florence and Alan Salisbury*

**Andy Andresen**, Chairman of our class executive committee, greeted everyone. **Jerry Prochaska**, gave the invocation. Psalm 23 was read by Alan and that was followed by a reading of the list of our Vietnam deceased by **Frank Waskowicz** and **Palmer McGrew**. Alan led us in the Cadet Prayer and finally we had a video of the Cadet Glee Club singing the “Alma Mater”. The service, very well done, was the first opportunity for all of our living class members to join in, and using zoom, it was interesting to see a lot of them. A video of the Memorial Service has been posted on the Class Website for anyone who missed it live and would like to see it.

## **New Orleans Mini**

5/8/2020



**Tom Sands** is organizing the 2020 reunion in New Orleans. He wrote, “Although we were not able to maintain the May 2020 dates for the Class Mini in New Orleans, the

coronavirus recovery process seems to be improving conditions so that "social distancing" will no longer be a requirement in November. Activities for our arriving November 1st and departing November 4th will be similar to those indicated in past emails relating to May activities. We will have a reception at the hotel in "Kilroy's" beginning at 1800 on November 1st. On the 2nd, we will view the film "Beyond All Boundaries" at the Museum. On the evening on the 3rd we will have a class Dinner/Meeting at the hotel. Naturally, Benny Havens will be in operation in the Eisenhower Suite throughout the reunion. Since the hotel staff will not be in full operation until June, I will not be in a position to provide final "specifics" to you until, probably, early July. For non-essential personnel/businesses New Orleans is still on "lockdown" until mid-May and a phased opening of businesses will be initiated thereafter. I will keep you posted with periodic emails via reunion58. **Barbara and I** are doing our best to make sure you join us and "pass a good time" in New Orleans. During "shutdown" we have Happy Hour on our front porch at 1645 each afternoon and are joined by various neighbors in a "social distancing" mode, As the photo indicates, we stray to other environs to acclimate (and violate "social distancing"). Look forward to seeing you in November.”

## **The March Back**

*5/8/2020*



The Marchback took place in August, 2019. **Wally Ward** is leading the graduates back to the Supe's house. **Ed Weckel** right guide. **Will Collett** is next to him. **Ed Weckel** wrote (Between the 3 of us, we have 59 march backs of experience.) The others in the front rank are all from the Class of 60. They are waiting for us to retire from the MB so one of them can lead the grads back to WP. This is an honor given to the oldest grad in the senior class – not necessarily the oldest grad. The next MB is scheduled for 9 – 10 August, but because of the Covid 19 virus, I will be very surprised if graduate participation is allowed. The guidon, carried by the youngest graduate, displays the dates of the oldest and youngest grad's classes. I offered to buy it last year, but was told it was not for sale. In any event, Wally, Will and I have signed up to be notified for this year's MB. Hope we can make it. And it would be great if others in the Class could join us. The below photo, and other MB photos, are available at [www.westpointaog.org/GradMarchback](http://www.westpointaog.org/GradMarchback).

## **Class Authors**

*5/8/2020*

In my very first note as scribe, 25 Jan 2014, I told about authors of books among our classmates and their wives. I decided to ask the same question again

for this, my first column of my second tour as scribe.

**Chuck Toftoy** has written five books,

o *How CEOs Set Strategic Direction For Their Organizations* (from his doctoral dissertation)

o *It's In The Eyes* (thriller)

o *Eyes Of Cold Case Killers* ( thriller)

o *Amazing Fireside Talks* (Self-help)

o *Blunders* ( events in world history that should not have happened). To be published in early Fall'20.

Books information can be found at [www.charlestoftoy.com](http://www.charlestoftoy.com). Also, all of them except for *Blunders* are available on Amazon. The second, third and fourth can be gotten for your Kindle.

**Richard Gell** wrote that his wife, **Penny**, has written 2 books, both available on Amazon. They are entitled *Fingernail Moon*, and *Out of the Mouths of Babes*. The first was so well received that she wrote the second as a sequel. The Amazon reviews look pretty good. She has used a pen name, J. Laura Chandler, and you can find a very nice picture of Penny and a wonderful write up about her and the books on her "Authors Page" in Amazon under her pen name. Find the books and then click on her pen name and you will see it.

**Pete Penczer** ( that's me ) reports that **Lynne** wrote *The Family Comes First, Portuguese/Americans in Bridgeport, Connecticut*. It is based on work for her Anthropology Ph. D. from Yale, which brought us many friends, activities and trips all over Portugal. Proceeds go to the Portuguese American Civic League Scholarship Fund and to the Portuguese Language School in Bridgeport.

## **Farrar's From Pennsylvania**

5/8/2020



**Mel Farrar'58 & Kay** went with family on a celebratory trip to Hawaii. Mel wrote, "As a retired pastor, I believe that the most important relationships we have in life after one with the God of the Bible is with our family, and our spouses being foremost in that group. During October of 2018, we celebrated these important relationships by taking a trip to Hawaii where our youngest daughter, Christine, for many years has been working on the faculty of the University of Hawaii as an instructor and researcher. The purpose of our trip was to celebrate the 80th birthday of my wife, Kay, which was in September and that of Christine ( the 50th ) which was in November. To make the family complete we were accompanied by our son's family of four, Doug, his wife Vicky and his grown children Matt and Laura, and the ashes of our older

daughter, Denise, who had died on November 2, 2017 of pancreatic cancer. Denise loved the beaches of Hawaii, so we ceremonially spread them in the water's of her favorite one.

We primarily celebrated the birthdays by getting fat. We took Christine to her favorite restaurant and Kay to a luau at the Hale Koa Hotel where we were staying. During the luau, they asked all couples who had been married more than 50 years to stand and tell the emcee how many years. When called upon, I exhibited being ancient of days by saying inadvertently 69 years instead of the true 59 years. Not surprisingly we were called to come forward as the longest wedded couple. As soon as we arrived up front, Kay told them the truth. We were told it was too late to bring another couple up. So they had us dance together on the stage as the emcee sang a love song to us and a young lady danced a hula. After that we were given a lei and returned to our seats.

Thereafter a number of people who saw the fiasco would run into us and talk about my stupidity. Fortunately, there was a lot more in Hawaii to see and do to help us forget my bad, like many visits to the wonderful beaches, to Pearl Harbor, to see where my daughter lived and worked, and the event shown in the photo. It was a visit to Dole's Pineapple Plantation where we divided into teams to see who would be the first to complete the maze. I believe Laura won first place and her father, Doug, was a close second. It was all such a wonderful family experience that on our 60th anniversary we took a 12 day cruise to Ireland, England, France, Belgium and the Netherlands that included Kay's brother and sister, but that's another story. Today we are confined to our home."

## **Toftoy's From Arlington**

*5/8/2020*



**Chuck Toftoy'58 &**

**Patty** had a very interesting trip in October to Sicily for sixteen days and then to Calabria for another six days. It was their first trip to Italy, although Patty had lived in Trieste where her father was stationed with our Army as a Special Forces officer. Food and wine were great. They walked a lot every day on a trip planned by Overseas Adventure Travel, enjoying the small group company and seeing most of Sicily. For Calabria they got an “outstanding” guide, visiting the WW II museum, salt factories, and meeting the mafia Godfather’s son who told them about his boyhood. It sounds like a great time. The picture shows Patty making mozzarella cheese.