

This book is dedicated to the VFW Post 8195 which is located in West Park, Florida. This Post has been there for more than 50 years. By utilizing its resources and membership, this Post organized and extended its concerns and compassion for vets into provisions of action services and programs designed to help and assist Vietnam and other military veterans who struggle with PTSD, other needs, concerns, and problems. It established the “the Stone of Hope Program” which provides services, assistance, and support for veterans and their families beyond the call of duty. The contributors are all service recipients of the Stone of Hope program. We appreciate this VFW Post and believe that it deserves our special dedication for this book.

This book is also dedicated to those who are MIA (missing in action) and to those military servicemen and women who fought in the Vietnam War and made the ultimate sacrifice for liberty, freedom, and justice.

Additionally, we dedicate this book to the many whom we knew personally. They fought the war courageously and heroically along with us—and we never saw them again. They were at our sides, with us in the trenches, in the ditches, in the rice paddies, in the jungles, and on the firebases. They saved many of us in battles and we shall always remember and appreciate them.

To our families, significant others, and love ones, we are delighted to have this opportunity to dedicate this book to you. We didn’t share many of these specifics with you earlier because

some of these candid reminiscences are very painful and we have wanted to and tried for years to forget about them.

The Vietnam War was physically, spiritually, and emotionally exhausting for us. We know now that the war's impact has been long-lasting both with negative and positive results. We thank you for your continued support, understanding, and unconditional love. Yes, PTSDs (Post-Traumatic Stress Disorders) are our realities but, we are combat survivors and we are too blessed to fail in our future endeavors. We know that we don't need to remind you that we lived and witnessed the worse of war, its negatives, its cruelty, and the brutality in missions that were necessary to defeat the enemy. You already know these things. Nevertheless, we are moving forward with our lives and with the dedication of this book to you. Thank you for always being there for us.

We dedicate this book to the United States of America's Commander in Chief, President Barack Obama. We appreciate his leadership, life-saving decisions, policies, and concerns about all persons serving in military service.

And finally, to my grandson, Bentley, whose perspective on life will be different because of this book.