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RUSTIC Rustic News



www.rustic.org



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Merry Christmas to all with wishes for a joyous and healthy New Year.

This newsletter and an updated Rustic Roster is being emailed to ALL Rustics and to Rustic next-of-kin for whom we have an email address. A hardcopy is being mailed to association members who do not have an email.

NEXT RUSTIC REUNION. Ft Walton Beach, Florida, 19-22 Oct 2017. Save the date! This will be the Rustics 20th year anniversary reunion. Our first reunion was in 1997. You don't want to miss this one. Start making plans now to attend.

Here's what to expect weather wise: On 23 Oct 2016 we had our second cold front move through. Daytime highs were in the high 70s to low 80s with low humidity. Lows were in the high 50s to low 60's. Nice! A Reunion Schedule of Events will be posted on the Rustic website in May 2017. The Registration form will be mailed in the June 2017 newsletter and posted on our website.

A representative from the 19 Weapons Squadron, Nellis AFB plans to attend our reunion and give us an update on what they are doing. at Nellis AFB.

PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE.

Well, one of the sad things about getting older is losing friends. I am sure many of you, like me, have attended far too many funerals in 2016. Losing friends and comrades makes me realize how special those relationships have been, and makes me want to work harder on maintaining those friends and relatives I still have. Once they are gone, it is too late to try and mend fences or tell them how much they have meant to us. (See the "stats article" which details we are losing 290 VN vets a day.) This newsletter details several Rustics who have gone wheels up for the last time. In those cases where we knew of the passing, we made extra effort to have a Rustic representative at the service. Feedback from loved ones gives a clear indication on how much those efforts to attend have meant to them. My thanks to those old Rustics who have made the extra effort to show their respect for our departed brothers. On a less somber note, I am gratified to see several active duty USAF units making special efforts to keep the Rustic history alive.

The world famous Flying Tigers, the 74th FS, now at Moody AFB and still flying A-10s, is working on a heritage wall. They have been using the Rustic call sign for over 12 years. Scheduling some old Rustics to visit has been difficult due to the 74th's schedule, but we will keep working and will advertise the date once we get it. And the 19th WPS at Nellis AFB is also using the Rustic call sign, and you can read more about that in this letter. Finally, this letter would not be possible without the continuing effort and dedication of our long time editor, Claude Newland, Rustic 19. Thanks Claude! And from the Aitken household to yours, Carol and I send our prayers for a safe and healthy Christmas and New Year. Keep the blue side up!"



ROSTER UPDATES. Please review your personal information on the accompanying Rustic Roster that is being sent to you via email (or hardcopy if you don't have email.). Please send any corrections or updates to our Database Keeper, **Lendy Edwards**, at lendy@cox.net or 850-651-6767. *Thanks.*

KOMPONG CHAM CHARITIES AND ORPHANAGE (Edwards). See the Second Quarter report on our web page. On page 6 the letter from one of the orphanage girls gives an indication of what our funds are helping with. (Gives you a warm Fuzzy that we are helping). Note: Second Quarter and Third Quarter newsletters have also been posted to the web page.

HISTORIAN REPORT. Jon Safley. Now that my wife's cancer treatment is almost finished, I'm back in the saddle tying up the loose ends on the project to return Rustic book source materials to their "rightful owners." There are just a handful of Rustics I have yet to hear from so I'll "press-to-test" again and see if they respond. If not, I'll forward their materials to the Ft Worth Aviation Museum (FWAM). BTW, the majority of the Rustics requested that their material be forwarded to FWAM.

SHORT BURSTS.

1. Rustic Facebook page. If you're not using the Rustic's new FACEBOOK site, you are probably missing out on a lot of Rustic communications. The site is called "Rustic FAC Family." It is a closed group. Anyone on Facebook can find the group and see who's in it but **only members** can see the posts. Also, for the time being, any member of the group can add/approve members. Here's the link. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/702300539793648/>

2. Visit to 74th Flying Tigers Fighter Squadron Pending. The Rustics would like to plan a visit to the 74th FS, Moody AFB, sometime in the first half of 2017. The 74 FS A-10s use the Rustic callsign when flying their FAC missions. We have two copies of our revised Rustic book to present to them. If you are interested in making this trip, or would like to learn more about the trip, contact **Doug Aitken** at daitken@nc.rr.com or (910) 295-5801.

3. Hurlburt OV-10 tail # 626. Earlier this year the Rustic Association donated \$1,000 to the Hurlburt Air Park earmarked to help find (or fund) a center line tank and ordnance pods to be loaded on the aircraft. **Lt Sean Col Wade**, Air Park Committee Chairman, recently reported, "At this time we have been unable to locate suitable tanks or pods to mount on the aircraft. Our historian is continuing to work with the AF Museum to locate these assets." *We'll keep you posted.*

IN REMEMBRANCE. Sadly, we have lost four Rustics this year:

Walter Friedhofen, Rustic Romeo (L) (with Claude Newland.) As reported in our June 2016 newsletter Wally made his final flight on April 9 in Springfield, MO, after a valiant struggle with cancer. Our thanks go to **Jim "Magnet Ass" Seibold** and **Dave Van Dyke** for representing all the Rustics.



Leo "Jack" Otis, Rustic India, Takes Final Flight, 16 June



2016. Jack served briefly as an interpreter with the Rustics at Bien Hoa AB, Sep-Oct 1971. He then went on to work for the Tilly FACs. The Rustics received word of Jack's passing from **John Charlton** who read the obituary on Together We Served. Unfortunately, **John Charlton** and the Rustics learned of Jack's passing after the memorial service had already been held.

A memorial service was held Sunday, June 19, 2016 at the Hillcrest Mausoleum Outdoor Chapel, 1000 Hwy 544 Conway, SC. The family received friends 6:00pm-8:00pm Saturday, June 18 at Burroughs Funeral Home, 3558 Old Kings Hwy Murrells Inlet, SC. Condolences can be made at www.burroughsfh.com

Dave Van Dyke, Rustic 04, Takes Final Flight, Jul 17, 2016. **Susan Van Dyke** contacted the Rustics on Jul 17 to tell us of Dave's passing. Dave was one of the original eight OV-10 Rustics at Bien Hoa AB. A number of Rustics attended his memorial service. **Johnny Drury** provided the following report.

Services were held for **Dave** on Sunday morning, 24 Jul, in Kansas City. Susan and the Van Dyke Family expressed their appreciation for such a large Rustic representation. Representing the Rustics were **Claude Newland, Jim and Diane Seibold, Mack and Mary Jo McGarvey, Greg and Barbara Freix, Sharon Friedhofen, Johnny Drury, and Roger Dodd.**

During the memorial service **Jim Seibold** presented the guests with an explanation of our "Nickel on the Grass" tradition which was conducted earlier by each attending Rustic by placing a nickel in Dave's coffin. **Claude Newland** also remembered Dave with a short presentation telling of Dave being Claude's first Rustic roommate and of the humorous antics for which Dave was very well known. Dave's ceremony was concluded with full military honors including presentation of the American flag to Susan by an Air Force Honor Guard, the playing of taps, and a final gun salute.

Susan and family honored the guests with a follow-on luncheon attended by the almost 180 family and friends. Susan says she plans to attend the 2017 Rustic Reunion, perhaps traveling there with **Sharon Friedhofen**. A slow hand salute to Rustic 04.



Joe Vaillancourt, Rustic H, Takes Final Flight, Aug 9 2016. Joe served with the Rustics Jun 1970-Feb 1971. He was one of the first four interpreters to volunteer for the Rustic mission. Amazingly, it was only four hours from the time he was first briefed on the Rustic mission (to see if he was interested in volunteering) until he was strapped in the backseat of an OV-10 flying his first Rustic mission.

Ron Dandeneau advised us of Joe's passing. "Just dropping a line to make sure that you got the word about Joe's passing in my home town of Berlin, NH. I read about it in our hometown newspaper. He apparently passed away on 9 Aug at the St Vincent De Paul Nursing Home in Berlin, NH. The funeral service was on Monday 15 Aug. Arrangements were made by the Fleury-Patry Funeral Home, 72 High Street, Berlin, NH, www.fleury-patry.com.

Roger Hamann added, "A couple of previously scheduled appointments prevented me from attending **Joe Vaillancourt's** funeral on Monday but I managed to attend the wake, Sunday 14 Aug. Joan and I attended Joe and Margaret's wedding nine years ago. When she was alone for a second this afternoon, we went over and re-introduced ourselves. Margaret obviously didn't remember us but when I introduced myself as a fellow Rustic, her face lit up and she immediately motioned for her son and daughters to come over. Needless to say, the family was very honored and pleased to have a representative from the Rustics there to pay respects to their husband/step-father. Joe's stepson, Clark, a veteran himself, was particularly touched by this fact. Joe was wearing the Rustic pin on his lapel. I rendered our fellow Rustic brother a slow hand salute and bid him safe travels on his final flight. A sympathy card on behalf of all Rustics was left for the family."



The above remembrances highlight how important it is for each Rustic to leave some sort of instructions for their family members to ensure the Rustics are notified upon a Rustic's passing. We are brothers-in-arms and brothers want to know.

WINGMAN SUPPORT. Four Rustics have had health issues recently:

George Larson, Rustic Uniform. "Lunchbox" recently had a re-occurrence of his fire coral poisoning. Apparently, according to **Rog Hamann**, this happens every couple of years.

Bob Harris, Rustic 33, has had a hell of a time these past months. **Don Mercer** has been posting fairly regular updates on the Rustic Family Facebook page, with the last one being Sep 16.

—**From Roger Hamann**, 19 Oct 16. I went to visit **Joe Garand**, Rustic Echo, today on the occasion of his

82nd birthday. Joe is in a rehab facility after he fell last week and broke his hip. He was laughing tears by the time Joan and I left. 'Always great to see my old NCOIC but it's also a reminder that none of us are getting any younger. We had to show off our common "sense of style" in footwear. I recently had some tendon and ligament damage, hence my new boot. Rustics forever! Nice foot ware Roger! In the photo to the right, L-R **Joe Gerand** and **Roger Hamann**, 19 Oct 16



O-2A TAIL MARKING QUESTION from the FACNET July 7, 2016, "recine123@gmail.com [FACNET].

I am curious if any O-2's had any special marking on the tail fins besides the tail # and "USAF", i.e. logos, unit markings, etc.? I'm restoring the right hand tail boom and fin from aircraft 68-10868. Unfortunately, it's the only major component left of this aircraft aside from a flap and nose gear doors. The rest was cut up and scrapped by an aviation school near Boston a couple of years ago, and that's all I was able to salvage.

I don't have the history of this aircraft, aside from it last being with the 549th Tactical Air Support Training Squadron at Patrick AFB until 1986 when it went to civil registry prior to being given to the aviation school.

It would be nice to see period pics of some aircraft in service in Vietnam c. 1967-1971 to get some idea of markings.

Can any of you help with photos or information on tail # 68-10868? Was it a Rustic bird? Red Marker FAC Gary Willis reports that Joe Baugher's website (joebaugher.com) has tail numbers for virtually all military aircraft from WW11 on. His site shows 68-10868 as going to civil registry as N4101P on May 25, 1991.

THE 19 WEAPONS SQUADRON IS THE SUCCESSOR TO THE 19th TASS. At different times this past year **Shad Kimball** and **Doug Aitken** (and his Grove City College fraternity reunion group) were hosted by the 19 WS at Nellis AFB. The 19 WPS is now the successor to the 19th TASS, and, as you recall, the Rustics belonged to the 19 TASS at Bien Hoa AB, Vietnam.

The 19th WPS is a non-flying unit, assigned to the **USAF Weapons School** at **Nellis AFB, Nevada**.

The squadron was first activated as the 19th Observation Squadron in March 1942. The 19th originally flew antisubmarine missions during World War II, then moved to China in 1944 to begin observation missions in support of Chinese ground forces. It later flew resupply missions to resistance forces operating behind enemy lines in French Indochina.

The squadron was redesignated the 19th Tactical Air Support Squadron, then organized in July 1963. From 1963 through 1968 the 19th Tactical Air Support Squadron flew forward air support and observation missions over Vietnam. The Rustics were under its banner, as well as the Sundog and Tilly FACs from June 1970 to October 1971. That year, its mission was transferred to Osan AB, South Korea in 1972, where it provided Eighth US Army and Republic of Korea ground forces with aerial reconnaissance and close air support.

The host for **Doug Aitken's** group visit was Captain **Bill "Torn" Tompkins**. Next Fall Torn will be attending school at Maxwell AFB when the Rustics hold their 20th Anniversary reunion in Ft Walton Beach, FL. and Torn said he plans to join us for the weekend.



At their request, the Rustic Board has approved the 19 WS to become an addressee to all future Rustic newsletters.

The 19 WEAPONS SQUADRON BAR NAMED IN HONOR OF RUSTIC JERRY AUTH. Captain Bill "Torn" Tompkins, Rustic O, reports, "We recently named our squadron bar 'Jerry's' in honor of Capt Jerry Auth who flew the first Rustic mission. I know that he has passed away, but do you by any chance have contact information for his family? We are interested in getting a picture to hang honoring him. In addition to the picture we want to frame an excerpt from "Call Sign Rustic" describing the first mission. We are in the process of getting the walls and floor remodeled, I will send you pictures once it is complete."

Doug Aitken has been coordinating with the 19 WS and Jerry's next-of-kin regarding this request. Upon hearing the news, Gloria Auth, Jerry's wife, replied:

"Well Jerry has an AWAC training center named after him, a tree in the park, a Silver Star posthumously, and I am finally taking him back to Pittsburgh to the military Cemetery of the Alleghenies. We were both born and raised in Pittsburgh and I've just been waiting for the right time. Guess 23 years later is enough time, and a bar to boot!"

RUSTIC DAVE PARSONS COORDINATES 2017 MEDICAL MISSIONS TO HONDURAS. David Parsons, Rustic 08, is heading up two medical teams to Honduras in 2017 which will share the Good News while using caring medical, surgical and dental care as their platform. They will be in Honduras 22 Aug -4 Sep 2017. The medical teams will have a village component each day so the non-surgical part of the team can offer medical care in rural villages within about an hour drive from the hospital. In 2016 they went to vil-lages in the mountains around 3600' elevation. (Mosquitoes don't like altitudes above 2000'). Guaimaca, where their mission work and hospital are located, is 2600'. Nice!

Dave reports, "We will bring General Surgery, Orthopedics, Ob-Gyn, ENT and Oral Surgery. We need many Anesthesiologists and CRNA's and tons of nurses and surgtechs. We also need dentists and medical doctors. Please help us recruit. But we also need support personnel just like you! Let me know if you are inter-ested. Adios, from Honduras." David can be reached at: 803 487 9434, www.parsonsmministries.org. Dona-tions can be sent to TIME for Christ Global Ministries, 3027 Split Rock Circle, Bulverde TX 78163. We are a 501(c)3 organization so donations are 100% tax deductible.

STATISTICS FROM THE VIETNAM WAR, posted on FACNET by AL Matheson/Nail 213, FAC As-sociation Historian:

"Of the 2,709,918 Americans who served in Vietnam, Less than 850,000 are estimated to be alive today, with the youngest American Vietnam veteran's age approximated to be 60 years old." If you're alive and reading this you are among 1/3rd of all the U.S. Vets who served in Vietnam. Only a few of us will survive by 2025. 390 VN vets die a day. So in only 6-10 years... 2190 days... from today, you will be lucky to be alive. (These statistics were taken from a variety of sources to include: The VFW Magazine, the Public Information Office, and the HQ CP Forward Observer - 1st Recon)

STATISTICS FOR INDIVIDUALS IN UNIFORM AND IN COUNTRY VIETNAM VETER-ANS: 9,087,000 military personnel served on active duty during the Vietnam Era (August 5, 1964 - May 7, 1975). 8,744,000 GIs were on active duty during the war (Aug 5, 1964-March 28, 1973).

2,709,918 Americans served in Vietnam, this number represents 9.7% of their generation.

3,403,100 (Including 514,300 offshore) personnel served in the broader Southeast Asia Theater (Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, flight crews based in Thailand, and sailors in adjacent South China Sea wa-ters). 2,594,000 personnel served within the borders of South Vietnam (Jan. 1, 1965 - March 28, 1973). An-other 50,000 men served in Vietnam between 1960 and 1964. Of the 2.6 million, between 1-1.6 million (40-60%) either fought in combat, provided close support or were at least fairly regularly exposed to enemy at-tack.

7,484 women (6,250 or 83.5% were nurses) served in Vietnam. Peak troop strength in Vietnam: 543,482 (April 30, 1968).

AGENT ORANGE. Agent Orange is taking a huge toll on Vietnam Veterans with most deaths some-how related to Agent Orange exposure. No one dies of Agent Orange. They die from the exposure which pur-portedly causes ischemic Heart Disease and failure, Lung Cancer, Kidney failure or COPD related disorders.

CASUALTIES: The first man to die in Vietnam was James Davis, in 1958. He was with the 509th Radio Research Station. Davis Station in Saigon was named for him.

Hostile deaths: 47,378

Non-hostile deaths: 10,800 Total: 58,202 (Includes men formerly classified as MIA and Mayaguez casualties). Men who have subsequently died of wounds account for the changing total. 8 nurses died -- 1 was KIA. 61% of the men killed were 21 or younger. 11,465 of those killed were younger than 20 years old. Of those killed, 17,539 were married.

Average age of men killed: 23.1 years Total Deaths: 23.11 years. Enlisted: 50,274; 22.37 years. Officers: 6,598; 28.43 years. Warrants: 1,276; 24.73 years. E1: 525; 20.34 years.

Five men killed in Vietnam were only 16 years old. The oldest man killed was 62 years old. Highest state death rate: West Virginia - 84.1% (national average 58.9% for every 100,000 males in 1970). Wounded: 303,704 -- 153,329 hospitalized + 150,375 injured requiring no hospital care. Severely disabled: 75,000, -- 23,214: 100% disabled; 283 lost limbs; 1,081 sustained multiple amputations. Amputation or crippling wounds to the lower extremities were 300% higher than in WWII and 70% higher than Korea. Multiple amputations occurred at the rate of 18.4% compared to 5.7% in WWII. Missing in Action: 2,338 POWs: 766 (114 died in captivity) As of January 15, 2014, there are 1,875 Americans still unaccounted for, from the Vietnam War.

DRAFTEES VS. VOLUNTEERS: 25% (648,500) of total forces in country were draftees. (66% of U.S. armed forces members were drafted during WWII). Draftees accounted for 30.4% (17,725) of combat deaths in Vietnam. Reservists killed: 5,977 National Guard: 6,140 served: 101 died. Total draftees (1965 - 73): 1,728,344. Actually served in Vietnam: 38% Marine Corps Draft: 42,633. Last man drafted: June 30, 1973.

RACE AND ETHNIC BACKGROUND: 88.4% of the men who actually served in Vietnam were Caucasian; 10.6% (275,000) were black; 1% belonged to other races. 86.3% of the men who died in Vietnam were Caucasian (includes Hispanics); 12.5% (7,241) were black; 1.2% belonged to other races. 170,000 Hispanics served in Vietnam; 3,070 (5.2% of total) died there. 70% of enlisted men killed were of North-west European descent. 86.8% of the men who were killed as a result of hostile action were Caucasian; 12.1% (5,711) were black; 1.1% belonged to other races. 14.6% (1,530) of non-combat deaths were among blacks. 34% of blacks who enlisted volunteered for the combat arms. Overall, blacks suffered only 12.5% of the deaths in Vietnam, at a time when the percentage of blacks of military age was 13.5% of the total population.

Religion of Dead: Protestant -- 64.4%; Catholic -- 28.9%; other/none -- 6.7%

SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS. Vietnam veterans have a lower unemployment rate than the same non-vet age groups. Vietnam veterans' personal income exceeds that of our non-veteranage group by more than 18 percent. 76% of the men sent to Vietnam were from lower middle/working class backgrounds. Three-fourths had family incomes above the poverty level; 50% were from middle income backgrounds. Some 23% of Vietnam vets had fathers with professional, managerial or technical occupations. 79% of the men who served in Vietnam had a high school education or better when they entered the military service. 63% of Korean War vets and only 45% of WWII vets had completed high school upon separation. Deaths by region per 100,000 of population: South -- 31%, West--29.9%; Midwest -- 28.4%; Northeast -- 23.5%.

DRUG USAGE & CRIME. There is no difference in drug usage between Vietnam Veterans and non-Vietnam Veterans of the same age group. (Source: Veterans Administration Study) Vietnam Veterans are less likely to be in prison - only one-half of one percent of Vietnam Veterans have been jailed for crimes. 85% of Vietnam Veterans made successful transitions to civilian life.

WINNING & LOSING. 82% of veterans who saw heavy combat strongly believe the war was lost because of lack of political will. Nearly 75% of the public agrees it was a failure of political will, not of arms.

HONORABLE SERVICE. 97% of Vietnam-era veterans were honorably discharged. 91% of actual Vietnam War veterans and 90% of those who saw heavy combat are proud to have served their country. 74% say they would serve again, even knowing the outcome. 87% of the populace now say they hold Vietnam Veterans in high esteem.

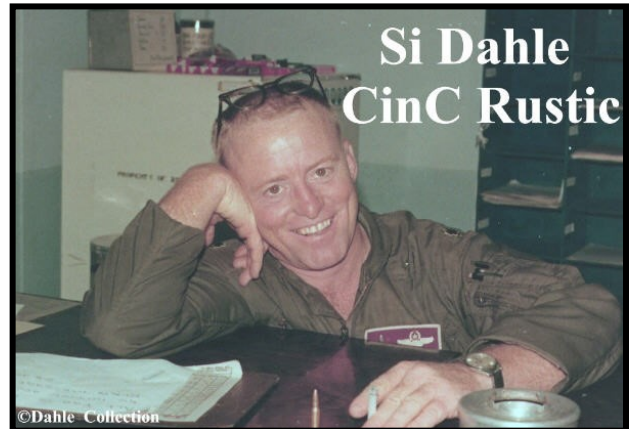
GOT ANY MORE RUSTIC STORIES TO TELL? IF SO, WE WANT 'EM! If you've got additional Rustic stories to tell, type them up and send them to our editor, Claude Newland, at rustic19@cox.net. We will publish them in future newsletters and post them on our Rustic website in a new section, entitled

something like...“Additional Rustic War Stories.” The Rustic stories submitted to the FAC history book “Cleared Hot III” will also be added.

LETTERS TO THE RUSTICS

From Si Dahle, Rustic 11, sidahle@icloud.com

I got your note on the June newsletter. I'm doing great...health wise...turned 85 on last birthday. I had a visit with my regular doc and heart doc. They both said, “You're doing great. Don't change what you're doing” So I said, “Thank you, I haven't been doing much--about what an 85 yr old should.” I do read all the info I can get about the RUSTIC'S. I did see on TV about OV-10s in Iraq but that was all. I hope this gets to you. *Editor. Si, glad to hear that you are doing well. Keep your mach up and stay in touch.*



From Tim Eby, Rustic 40, teby540@hotmail.com

Subject: Loss of Rustic Interpreter Joe Vaillancourt

Claude, a slow hand salute to a pretty courageous guy. I was a Rustic during August 1970 and must have flown with Joe. But I can't remember any of the individuals; just that they were super quick to learn the business. I remember taking one or more on their first mission after arriving at Bien Hos. The entirety of their combat training was when I climbed up their steps, pointed out the ejection handle and explained that if I say the word, “bailout,” they were to just reach down and pull that thing upward. I felt bad about that, but they sure caught on quickly.

From Roger Hamann, Rustic Yankee, 10/23/16. I received this message on facebook from a VFW post in Cambodia and will pass it along. It is from **Roy Day**, Phnom Penh.

I am the VFW Quartermaster for Post 11575 the Mayaguez Memorial Post in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. I'm sending this because I see that you are associated with the Rustics. We would like you to know that we are here, in Cambodia, and would be happy to help you or your association members if you visit Cambodia or need assistance with anything in Cambodia.

We are looking for VFW members, especially members at large, or anyone else who would like to make this their home post. We have slightly over 100 members. Most live in the US but choose to affiliate with us due to their personal connection to Cambodia and SE Asia.

Please forward this on to anyone who might be interested. I can be reached at

gm11575@vfwdeptpacific.org

Our Facebook page is www.facebook.com/groups/VFW11575 . Respectfully Submitted, **Roy Day**
Mayaguez Memorial VFW Post 11575, Phnom Penh, Cambodia (38 members).

The Rustic Board has approved adding an internet link to the Phnom Penh's VFW Post 11575 website to the Rustic's website Links Page.

From Doug Aitken, Rustic 16. Fellow Rustics, I would like to share what I received in the mail yesterday from **Margaret Vaillancourt**, widow of Rustic Hotel, **Joe Vaillancourt**.

"Dear Douglas: You don't know how happy you made me when I read your letter. And thank you for serving our country (Rustic 16). And I'm grateful for my son-in-law to have been able to reach a Rustic & share a nickel on the grass. And yes, **Roger and Joan Hamann came**. I gave him a big hug for being with us for all the Rustics. Joe would have been so pleased. He talked a lot about the Rustics. So thank you again for your lovely letter. Rustic Hotel's wife, **Margaret Vaillancourt**"

Guys, I know how much our efforts mean to those left behind when one of our group takes their final flight west. Thanks in this case to Roger and Joan for making that extra effort....it obviously meant a lot to Joe's

family. And a big thanks to EVERYONE who has been able to "throw a nickel on the grass" to any of our departed Rustics. Kudos to you all. **Doug**

**From Captain Charles J. "WAE" Cole, Capt USAF ACC 74 FS, Moody AFB,
charles.cole.23@us.af.mil**

Doug Aitken, I got the CD. Thank you very much. I am still sorting through those. I finally have had time to read through all three chapters (Rustic book) and they are great This chapter 3 I think is where I look at getting some stories/history for the wall to go along with all the great pictures I've got to choose from.

I remember you mentioning that there are three Rustics that never made it home. If you could send me their information for our memorial wall, that would be great. I'll get back to you when I've finished going through the pictures and if I have any more questions.

Also, we were thinking of trying to having a designated roll call and inviting as many of the previous Rustic FAC's that can make it to Moody. I'm not sure how many would be able to go or what the interested would be in coming to Moody, maybe getting out on the bombing range and into the A-10 sims, and then of course, to the bar for roll call and stories, even if it's only a couple of you guys. I've already run that idea tentatively though the commander/DO and they are on board if that's something you think would be well received by your guys.

THUNDER!/ATTACK! Capt C. J. "WAE" Cole, 74 FS Chief of Training

FAC CALENDER:

Next Rustic Reunion, Ft Walton Beach, Florida, 19-22 Oct 2017. Details to be posted in Spring 2017 at: www.rustic.org. Registration information will be posted on line and in the Jun 2017 Rustic newsletter.

Next All-FAC Reunion, Seattle, Washington, date TBA, Fall 2018. Details will be posted at: www.fac-assoc.org.

LATE BREAKING NEWS!!

David W. Tisdale, Jr. , In February of this year, we put out a request to see if anyone had any information about David W. Tisdale Jr. a Rustic Intel Officer at Ubon in 1972. Rob Shinafelt responded with an obituary published by the Baltimore Sun on July 26, 2011. There are too many facts that seem to match perfect with what we know about Dave. If anyone has an old order that has him listed, please provide Lendy with his SSN. He can verify through the SSN death rolls if he is deceased. The Obit follows:

David W. Tisdale, Jr., 68, Beloved husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, son, brother, uncle and friend, went to be with the Lord Friday, July 22, 2011 from his home in Orlando, Florida. David was born November 13, 1942 in Brooklyn, NY. He was a graduate of The [University of Florida](http://www.universityofflorida.edu), and was commissioned by The United States Air Force and served from 1964 to 1984. David also served during the Vietnam conflict in 1971. From 1984 to 2004, David continued to serve his country by working as a civilian for the United States Government in numerous capacities such as a Senior Staff Policy and Intelligence Officer and Management Consultant. David is survived by his loving wife of 36 years, Sue; daughters, Lisa Lorraine Tisdale-Salli and Kimberly Dawn Tisdale of St. Petersburg, FL; grandson, John Richard Jablon, Jr.; granddaughters, Samatha Lorraine, Nicole Elizabeth Hoen and Jessica Crowley; great granddaughter, Breanna Elizabeth Louise Jablon; brother Richard Murdock Tisdale of Melrose, FL; sister Barbara Ann Tisdale of New York, NY; and numerous beloved nieces and nephews. Visitation for David will be Wednesday, July 27th from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM at The Baldwin Fairchild Conway Chapel. Immediately following, a Funeral Mass to celebrate David's life is scheduled at Blessed Trinity Catholic Church, 4545 E. Orlando, FL 32804. (407) 277-6700. Please view and sign the family guest book at www.baldwinfairchild.com





Rustic 20th Anniversary Reunion
19-22 Oct 2017
Ft Walton Beach, Florida

Rustic FAC Association
4033 Indian Trail Drive
Destin, FL 32541

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED