

WWW.CATKILLERS.ORG

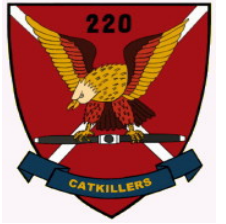


Service in Vietnam, 1965-1971



CATKILLER REUNION, 2012

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON



Catkiller Reunion, Seattle, Washington,
July 2012



This year brought new discoveries and opportunities to Catkillers and Friends willing to share their experiences. Thanks to our excellent reunion committee we enjoyed a memorable time in Seattle while based at a great hotel, the Doubletree Suites on Southcenter Parkway. That the ladies had a hand in this event was obvious, as their influence surfaced everywhere, especially at the banquet. Ladies, we owe you a hearty "thank you" for being there and for taking a on a huge part in a successful reunion.

Norman MacPhee served all of us as the chairman of the reunion committee this year. It would be difficult to imagine the hours, personal assets and sacrifices he and the others contributed to pull off such a wonderful and diverse gathering of Catkillers and Friends, but typical of Norman's thoroughness and praise for others is the following message extracted from his last e-mail:

"Hello all,

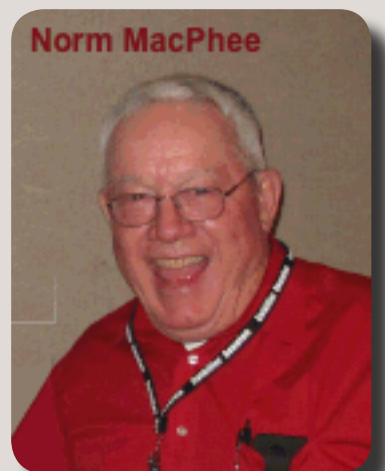
A personal thank you to all who attended the reunion in Seattle. Many of you came a long way to be with your friends from our Viet Nam experience. There can be no reunion without those attending---you are the important folks.

I know I will miss some here because there were so many helpers; special thanks to our committee members and their wives, [Lloyd and Irene Oake](#), [Charlie and NanSea Welsh](#), [Al and Sharon Paulsen](#), [Gene and Ellie Wilson](#), [Darl and Mary McAllister](#), [Dick and Mary Jane Tobiason](#) and my wife [Floy Ann](#).

Our webmaster and ex-officio Committee Member, [Don Ricks](#)-and friend [Donna](#)
Our roster keeper, [Paul Garin](#)
Our Catkiller memorial fund keeper, [Charles Finch](#)
Our historian, [Gene Wilson](#)
The builder of our new wall rubbing memorial, [Al Paulsen](#)
The man who obtained the wall rubbings, [Dick Tobiason](#)
Our web "store keeper", [Jack Bentley](#)
Our Saturday night emcee, General [Jim Morris](#)
Our Saturday night speaker, General [Jerry Curry](#)
Our Boeing "Dong Ha R&R Center Speaker", [Lloyd Oake](#)
Our YO-3A presenter, [Kurt Olney](#)
Our presenter from the "Shotguns", [Gene Alexander](#)
The Donor of our Catkiller buttons and refer magnets, [Chico Fernandez](#)
Our [Marine, Navy and Army Back-seaters](#)
The [21st Black Aces](#)
The [hotel staff](#)
The [Ft. Lewis Tour Staff](#)
The [Boeing Staff](#)
And [many others](#).

I hope to see you all at the next reunion in Las Vegas. Thank you again for attending and helping out.

[Norm MacPhee](#), 220th Catkiller 2012 Reunion"





The photo of smiling men at the left is typical of several families attending the reunion. Paul Garin and his two sons; Glen and Debbie Troha and their son and daughter-in-law, David and Amy, and the extended family of General Curry were representative of the good relations and all-around enjoyment experienced by all. Not to take away from our couples and singles, I heard stories of the couples taking some of the singles under their wing and enjoying the company. Renewing old friendships and rekindling the embers of brotherhood, indeed! THAT is why we enjoy these gatherings, plus all the new friendships gained in our maturing years. It was a pleasure seeing and experiencing all of this in just four days.

ARRIVAL AND THE HOSPITALITY THAT FLOWED



John Hillman sandwiched between Leonard Bumgardner and Nelson Kunitake.

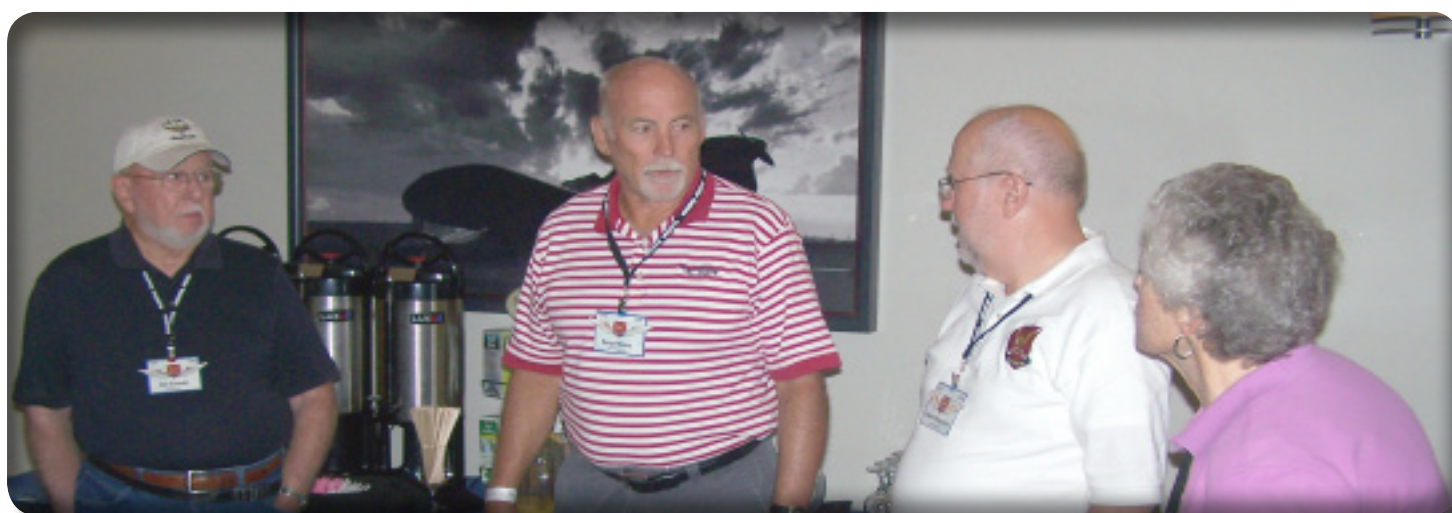
These smiles are what I meant in the above paragraph. A few days after returning home from the reunion, Nelson Kunitake sent this message: "The best part of it was also meeting others who served for the same cause and survived. The hard work by the reunion committee, your newsletters, and contributions by individuals really paid off. A real heartfelt thanks to everyone who attended. Mahalo,

Nelson"



Here, in the Hospitality Room, are some of the attending remnants of the 1968-69 era, after their feast at Outback Steak House on Friday evening. A portion of these men will make up the reunion committee for the *next* reunion.

L-R: (front) Bruton, Anderson, Finch, Stewart, Caverhill. (mid) Gary Miller, Paul Brennan, Bob Arrington, Leonard Bumgardner, Jack Bentley, Scott Cummings (back) Don Pepe, Pete Blevins, Roger Bounds, Keith Klett, and Bill Snyder (Pepe and Snyder hidden).



Leonard and Virginia unsuccessfully attempting to convince Bill Everett (left) and Sarge Means that the reunion is in the hotel next door....(Currie, hereafter "Currie").



Paul and Trudy Brennan know where there are, and apparently having fun (Currie).



Cathy Bentley and Nancy Finch reconnecting. (r) John Hillman's big smile (Finch photo, hereinafter "Finch").



Keith and Kay Klett and Jean and Rod Stewart in the hospitality suite (Finch)



Bob and Felice Arrington at the Era-Night feast (Finch)



Can't think of a thing to say that this photo doesn't say.... Sarge and Stephanie, wow, guys...(Finch).



Cathy and Jack, wow, guys...must be in the water they served at the Outback Steakhouse...(Finch).



The next night, still aglow, Leonard and Virginia (Finch)



Doc Clement, Bob LaFerriere, and Henry Milam going strong. Always fun-loving! (Finch)

No Matter What We Did, The Ladies Held Their Own!



EVEN OUR FRIENDS ENJOYED THEMSELVES

Reunion 2012 attendees who served in 21st Avn Co (Black Aces). L-R: Bob Rowland, Charlie Welsh, Otha Dent, KC Kholbrand, Keith Morehead, Leroy Burkember, and Darl McAllister



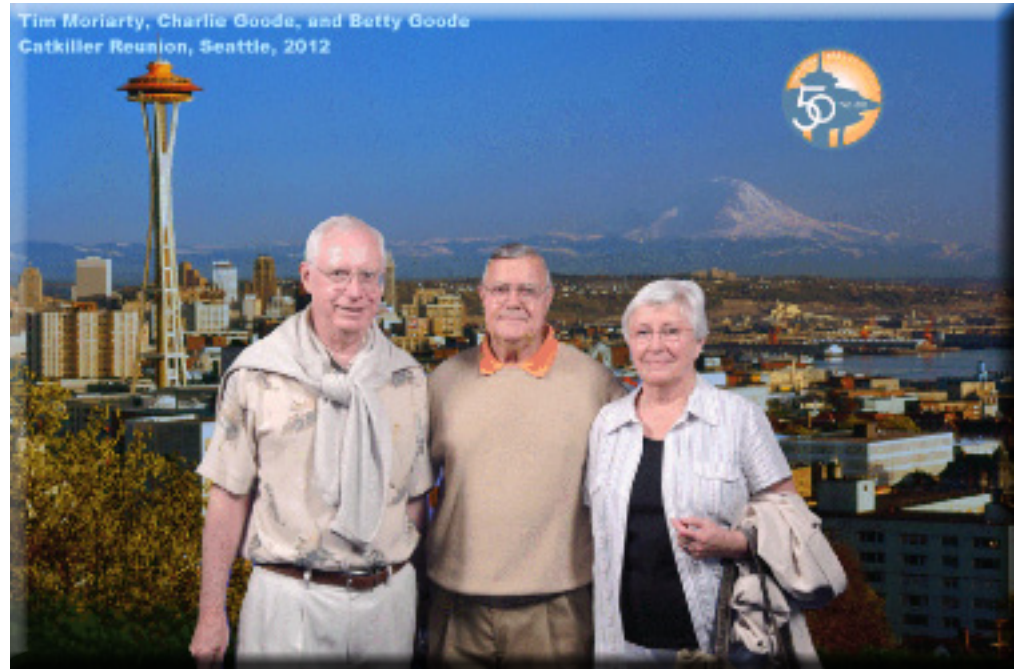
IT TOOK A LITTLE WHITE HAIR TO GET HERE, BUT WE STILL HAD FUN!





Amelia Earhart 115th Birth-day

To the right is a photo of Tim Moriarty, Charles Goode, and Charlie's wife, Betty. This is a small-resolution version, but you get the picture. Their visit to downtown Seattle was a highlight for them. That is Mount Rainier behind Betty.



Tim Moriarty, Charlie Goode, and Betty Goode
Catkiller Reunion, Seattle, 2012

ACTIVITIES ON A LOOSE SCHEDULE:



FL Lewis Rep:
Major Polynice

Tour Coordinator
Gene Wilson and wife
Ellie

Departing from the hotel early, we bused out to JBLM in style. The first stop was at the Corps of Discovery Plaza, where we toured an area depicting history of the Lewis and Clark Expedition (1804-1806).



(r) Cannon at the entrance to Fort Lewis



Fort Lewis Post Tour
Catkiller Reunion, 2012

Gene Wilson and MAJ Polynice
giving a history overview

16TH COMBAT AVIATION BRIGADE SHOWED THEIR STUFF!

16th CAB Tour - July 12



This tour presented opportunity for both discussion and fellowship, and all seemed to have appreciated the professionalism of all soldiers with whom we had contact.



SGT Armstrong discussing his helicopter with 184th Avn Co "Nonstop" Pilot, Kenny Kohlbrand



CW3 Mulder, pilot/maintenance officer, discusses her display aircraft with Lloyd and Irene Oake

1 16th CAB assets



(Wilson)

MAJ Phil Mazingo
S3, Operations Officer,
16th Combat Aviation Brigade,
Joint Base Lewis-McChord,
Washington

Gene Wilson, tour coordinator

**Gray Army
Airfield,
Catkiller
Reunion
Tour,
July 12,
2012.**

Gray Army Airfield, JBLM
Walking to the static display area.

(Ricks)



(Wilson)

16th Combat Aviation Brigade

These soldiers did a super
job displaying their aircraft and
discussing their mission and
methods. We were proud of
all of them!



UH-60 BLACKHAWK
"Warhawks!"

2ND Battalion, 158TH Aviation Regiment
Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington

The UH-60 Blackhawk is the Army's division
Aircraft. The UH-60 provides commanders a
can plan and execute combat, combat support
mobility enable the commander to adjust for
enemy. The primary mission of this helicopter

**CW3 Mulder was a popular presenter of facts and
information about her Warrior, here photographed
with Bob Copland and Rod Stewart. Thanks, Chief!**

(Stewart)



(Stewart)



**The sharp soldier to the
right is Captain Johnston.
He easily gained the at-
tention of our group and
here answers questions for
Scott Cummings, Chico
Fernandez, and Rod Stew-
art.**

(Wilson)



**End of Reunion
Report 2012
Part One**