

716th Military Police BN Vietnam Reunion Inc.

After serving some months together at the Presidio in San Francisco, CA and then their year together in Vietnam, Duane Hursey and Tom Malotke came home to the USA; together also. Duane living in Iowa and Tom in Michigan both married the girls who waited for them within the next few months. The two Vets stayed very close and the families (even as they grew in numbers) continued to spend vacations together every year in alternate states. Every time we were all together, Tom or Duane would bring up what happened to which ever Vet they had served with in "Nam. Sometimes they'd hunt them down through very kind telephone operators, and call them. Finally Jan Hursey and myself, Edna Malotke said START A GET TOGETHER and see these guys! And that is how the "716th MP Vietnam Reunion" was born. We had 27 people at the first one in Omaha, 18 vets and 9 guests. We still have 7 of those original 18 vets that have made EVERY SINGLE REUNION!! We had to put one together pretty quickly as we discovered one 716th member we had just located was dying of a brain tumor- and it hit us all hard! We hadn't done any talking about what we would do after the first reunion, but quickly came up with the idea of doing a semi-annual reunion as it took lots of planning and we were too new to know what we were getting into! But we knew we had to start before we lost anymore like Harris Dickson! So for the most part, we've not regretted it. So far we have taken the reunion to the following locations: 1986 Omaha, 1988 Omaha, 1990 Romulus, MI 1992 Chicago, 1994 Washington DC, 1996 ST Louis MO, 1998 Nashville, TN, 2000 Kansas City, MO, 2002 Bloomington, MN , 2004 Ft. Mitchell, KY, 2006 Omaha, NB

We move the reunion around when possible in hopes of picking up new members that live in the new areas; without losing too many regulars. With the new names that were recently added our roster is over 2100 names...we're very proud of that fact. It consists of only 716th MP Veterans that served in Vietnam. Our by-laws read that way because the 4 of us that started the reunion and later incorporated it are the officers and we felt the "bond" the members feel from that year they spent together in "Nam is a very special bond and it draws them together like nothing I have ever seen in my lifetime. I have met many wonderful soldiers and veterans from all walks of life.... but after working as the secretary for this reunion for over 20 years with these men, I am proud to call them all "my guys". They make me proud to be able to work with them and for them and I love listening to their stories and nothing brightens my life more when one vet finds another he's been looking for during the past 25-40 years!! That is what our "reunion" exists for~ to locate, serve and help those men who went to Vietnam as 716th Military Police. Our goal remains the same in the future, to keep finding our Veterans and bringing them into our group.