

## 2023 REUNION WRAP UP LETTER

2023 Hotel 2/7 Reunion in OKC was our 15<sup>th</sup> reunion. Although turnout was low, it did not make a difference as we rekindled our friendships, honored, and remembered our fallen brothers, and celebrated "Brothers Gathering".

A big thanks to our hosts Jerry Norris and Tom Dake for their hard work to make it a success. They did not do it alone, Suzanne Paranell, Jerry's awesome significant other, made sure our hospitality room was always well stocked, ensured the ladies luncheon had everything needed such as table decorations and munches to make this event outstanding. Most will agree the 2023 OKC reunion ranks up there with some of our best reunions.

Suzanne came up with the idea of the pink robes which were a big hit. (Ralph and Richard, the Hat liked them too).

Thank you, Letty McCann, Barbara Pollock for putting the reunion good bags together on Wednesday. Also, Letty, Barbara and Janet Cartlidge stepped up to ensure that all registered got their goodie bags on Thursday and Friday. Our reunion ID tags designed by Amanda and Tom Dake daughter were awesome thank you Amanda. A big shout out to Doc Mc Cann Jerry's A-Gunner, on the many re-supply runs that Doc and Jerry had to make for our reunion. At the Ladies Luncheon Andi Tam took a big load off the host team by taking the lead to ensure it went smoothly. Although we kind of rush their social time at luncheon because of group photos, we still had a good time. We had so many other contributors/ helpers but like Jerry said we would run out of ink if we mention them all here.

Friday's luncheon at Deep Deuce Grill was great, everybody enjoyed their meals, thanks Kyle and Sabra Dake.

Saturday's banquet dinner/ dance was fantastic the food was great, and DJ got a lot of us to on to the dance floor. The lady's performance of the Supremes "Stop in the Name Love" was awesome. Our karaoke singers again Ralph and Pam Sonny & Cher "I got you Babe ", Jerrys Merle Haggard "Okie from Muskogee", Delfina, Patsy Cline "Crazy" were terrific.

Sundays Memorial Ceremony was special because of Hubert Yoshida presentation of the first 25 men who were killed in Viet Nam. He also put a face to KIA brothers as their names were read, which made the ceremony special, Thank you Hubert Yoshida and daughter.

Our turnout attendance was somewhat low, 35 Marines, 6 Corpsman, 33 Wives or Significant others, 28 Family members or/ Friends for a total of 102. However, we thank God we had the opportunity to see our H 2/7 family again and spend this time together which only strengthens our bond.