

August 10, 2015

William L. Foulks
1545 Backwood Court
Hebron, KY 41048
(859) 689-4706

RE: 2015 KVHOF Essay Scholarship in Honor of Robert A. Flick

Mr. Gary Griesser:

I am currently a senior at Conner High School and wish to apply for the 2015 KVHOF Essay Scholarship.

I would like to write about my Grandfather, Lloyd William Bridges, whom I am named after, known to me as "Pap." He has been married for 43 years with 3 boys and six grandchildren. I never hear my grandfather speak of Vietnam, but I am proud of him for serving our country at a time during an unpopular war.

He graduated from Dixie Heights High School June 4, 1970, and joined the Marine Corps the next day on his 18th birthday. Three weeks later he went to San Diego for boot camp. After boot camp he went to Camp Pendleton, California, for one month for Infantry training. From there he left for Da Nang, Vietnam, where he was assigned a Military Occupation of 0331 (machine gunner).

The reason my grandfather joined the Marine Corps was because a friend of his, Steven Dale Tanner, from Bromley, Kentucky, got to Vietnam on February 10, 1969, and was killed on February 19, 1969, while serving our country. His friend received a bronze star. There is currently a street named in his honor, Steve Tanner St. in Bromley, Kentucky.

When my grandfather arrived in Vietnam, he was assigned to a platoon and was made a radio operator because the previous radio operator was killed. Pap was awarded a Combat Action Ribbon before his 19th birthday. After serving a tour of duty in Vietnam, he was stationed at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, for a year. He was on Hill 65 and has been to Freedom Hill. He was honorably discharged in June of 1972. While stationed at Camp Lejeune, he left for a NATO cruise, USS Guadalcanal, a helicopter carrier, to Europe, Spain, Rome, and Turkey for 3 months. The USS Guadalcanal was the ship that actually picked up Apollo Nine in the Atlantic Ocean. From there he sailed to Naples, Italy; Athens, Greece; Palma, Spain; and Turkey. He came home and started working for Newport Steele Company and is presently still working there. My grandfather's ranking is a Lance Corporal.

My grandfather "Pap" has not told people he was ever in Vietnam; he never talks about it.

I love him very much, and I am applying for this scholarship to honor him.