

Mahwah Museum - Questionnaire for Mahwah Veterans

Please print and send completed form to Mahwah Museum.

Biographical Details

1. Where were you born?-

BRONX, New York

2. Who are/were your parents and what are/were their occupations?

EDWARD KLAR - Sales Representative - TODD SHIPYARD
ALICE KLAR - Housewife -

3. Who are/were your siblings? Names and genders? Which, if any, serve/served in the military?

Lorraine Marshall - Female -
Alice Amzraut - Female
Lu Ann Mulder - Female

4. What were your parents' or siblings' feelings about you joining the service?

I graduated 1st in my ROTC class at Miami University and accepted a regular Army commission. Parents proud of accomplishments & somewhat concerned with Vietnam War going on and my volunteering to go to Vietnam

5. What primary and secondary schools or college did you attend?

Univ. of Miami, Florida, Coe ~~Graduate~~ School - Fairleigh Dickense, Teaneck

6. Did you hold any jobs before entering the service?

Went from graduating college directly into Army.
worked during summers in college

Early Days of Service

1. Can you tell us about when you went into the military? Were you drafted, or did you enlist?

per above I took ROTC throughout college & accepted regular Army commission for upon graduating. Also awarded Douglas Magruder award by ROTC for fraternally brother killed in Vietnam in 1968. This award given to most physically fit student every year since 1968

2. (If enlisted) Why did you join?

felt obligation to country

3. What or who did you leave behind (family, child, pet) when you left to serve?

Just my family. Was not married

4. In which branch did you enter?

Army - Air Defense Artillery / Automatic Weapons

(If enlisted) Why did you choose that branch?

I original choose Infantry but was not given that choice by Army so I then choose Artillery.

5. How did you get to your initial point of entry?

Ft. Bliss, Texas. Drove. I had a car my last year in college

6. What type of training or schooling did you have? (Advance Course Warrant Officer Basic, Warrant Officer Advance, Warrant Officer Senior Course, "Boot-strap" Command and General Staff College or equivalent, War College or equivalent (getting a degree-either Bachelors, Masters or PhD).

I did basic training during the summer of my junior year in college originally went thru Air Defense Artillery / Nike Hercules Missile training in Ft. Bliss. Also attended Chemical Biological Radiological training at McClellan

7. What is your most vivid memory of your time training or in school? What was the best part?

Respect for those with you. Comrades

What was the worst part?

physically side of not sleeping much during training

then went back to Ft. Bliss for Automatic Weapons training before going to Vietnam

8. Does any particular instructor stand out in your mind? If yes, why?

Captain Culpepper - He was 6'5" & played football at Arkansas

9. What was your first assignment after basic training?

First Assignment - Nike Hercules Platoon leader - Swedesboro NJ

Second Assignment - Automatic Weapons Task Force Platoon leader - Vietnam

10. Did you receive any specialized training? If so, what?

Nike Hercules Missile Training

CBR-training

Automatic Weapons Training -

tired assignment - General's Staff - Stewart AFB/West Point

Quad 50's, Duster/Twin 40 mm

11. Do you recall your instructors? If so, what were they like?

None stand out in Army

12. Did you qualify with equipment (vehicles, aircraft, radios, weapons, etc.)?

Qualified to fire Hercules missiles, Quad 50's twin 40 mm M-60 machine gun

(If Yes) What was training with that equipment like?

M-16 rifle, 45 pistol

VERY intense

13. What was the hardest part of training?

extensive procedures to remember.

14. Did you receive any promotions? Could you tell me about them?

2nd lieutenant to 1st Lieutenant - 1 yr

1st lieutenant to Captain - 1 yr.

Promotion during war was faster than peacetime

Resigned after 3 yr.

Commitment

15. What was the hardest part of the military life-style for you to adapt to? Why do you think it was?

The structure was regimented of something that everyone who is young needs. This country is a mess now and would be much better off if people were required to go into military where

16. What was the easiest part of the military life-style for you to adapt to? Why do you think it was?

The respect you show to your fellow service comrades and superiors.

Country are respected

Wartime Service

1. Where did you serve?

Vietnam - 1969

2. What are your recollections of that experience?

Have vivid pictures of men who I had under me. Those that were lost

3. Were you in a combat, combat support, or combat service support role? Or did the war zone make that designation

Our Battalion 5th/2nd supported many units during my tour
irrelevant? Combat & Combat Support: Support 11th ACR, 1st CAV, 1st WFA, 101st Airborne, 82nd Airborne

4. (If combat/ wartime) How did your combat (wartime) experience change you?

The change occurred in coming home in which public had little respect for military so never talked about experience

5. What kinds of friendships and camaraderie did you form while serving, and with whom?

Only stayed in touch with a few people for few years
But member of American Legion of Veterans of Foreign Wars.

6. How did you stay in touch with family and friends?

Wrote a few letters. Did not have opportunity then to call/phone.
Since I was in the field the entire time in ~~the~~ Vietnam

7. What did you do for recreation or when you were off duty?

In field you were on duty 24/7 so there was no recreation.

8. Do you recall any particularly humorous or unusual events?

No.

R & R / Rest & Recuperation which would be only off duty I had

9. Was there something you did for "good luck?"

Prayed.

10. What was the best part of your service experience?

Saying I served and being proud of the accomplishment

End of Service

1. Do you recall the day service ended? Where were you when your service ended?

I went home since West Point / Stewart AFB was close to home and my father was sick with cancer. I rec'd a compassionate reassignment close to home during his final months of terminal cancer. 3

2. Did you return home? Where were you?

Yes, Gilro Rock NJ

3. How were you received by your family and community?

Family excited.

4. How did you readjust to civilian life? Did you work or go back to school?

Went to work and got job a few months after getting out

5. Did the G.I. Bill support your education?

Yes

6. How did service change you?

Very regimented in everything I do. Believe in detail

7. Did you continue any friendships after service? For how long?

Yes, for couple years with fraternity brothers who served & other officer in same branch. Get newsletter from my unit every month. They have annual reunion but I don't go

8. How did service affect the way you relate to others?

Respect for others but conflict with those that don't honor God/Country

9. Did you join a veteran organization?

VFW & American Legion since out of service

10. Do you attend reunions?

No - They have reunions every year but have never been able to attend. I plan on hopefully attending this year in Ft. Sill Oklahoma

Reflections

1. How did your military service experiences affect your life?

Quiet. Kept thoughts to myself. Liberal lifestyles and disrespect for our country are bothersome. Political fake news and lies by left is disturbing

2. What are some life lessons you learned from your military service?

Honesty, Conscientious, Respect, Patriotic, Generous, Sympathetic, Philanthropic, Kind

3. How has your military service impacted your feelings about war and the military in general?

Most wars except Revolutionary War & World War II should have been unnecessary. All other wars have never accomplished anything

Example - Vietnam - People lived for bowl of rice from day to day, I didn't matter whether Communism or democracy ruled, as long as they had food from day to day.

4. What message would you like to leave for future generations who will view/hear this interview?

I am very much concerned that our nation is moving to a society where the government will replace God in which the consequences will be tyrannical. Who are those that report on war thru a

Conclusion

political prism without every seeing or understanding the thoughts, needs, struggles, feelings, hopes, ambitions, fears, joys, suffering of the oppressed, to determine if war is the answer. The distortion of political coverage by the mainstream media will lead to the downfall of our country

Thank you for taking the time to share your recollections of your military service.

1. Is there anything you would like to add that we have not covered in this interview?

No

2. Is there anything you've always wanted to share about your service or veteran experience that you never have?

No. It irks me that you have veterans that fought & died for the freedoms we have in the US and still wing socialists/anarchists that abuse the freedoms

3. What would you like people to know or remember from your story?

The gratitude the public should have to the military for their service

4. Is there anything else we should talk about that we haven't covered?

Current ~~debate~~ debate in Afghanistan by Biden and the lack of correct coverage by fake news: CNN, NBC ABC, CNBC

5. What do you wish more people knew about veterans?

Empathy for some of the issues they have from their service. Loss of life/disabled/psychological issues

Please tell us more about yourself, and what you have been doing since your time in the service. Do you have any photos to share with us?

photos attached

I worked for some company Akzo Nobel / International Paint for 46 years since being discharged from service. Retired as Vice President of Sales in Marine Industry. Raised 3 girls who all played sports graduated college, are working and are married. Have 6 grandkids.

Thank you!! Please add your name and address and return to Mahwah Museum, 201 Franklin Turnpike Mahwah, NJ.

LARRY KLAR

45 Ronald Court, Ramsey 07446

Would you be willing to do a taped oral interview with us? maybe

Would you allow us to include your name on our website in a list of Mahwah veterans? Yes

Would you be willing to have us submit your answers to the Library of Congress? OK