Hi Nik,

So nice to hear from you. A big part of Barry's life after Vietnam were the memories he cherished of those Marines he served with in Vietnam and elsewhere. He was my younger brother. We did everything together, we hunted, hiked, four wheeled, explored, and prospected for gold together.

After a ten year battle with the horror of Alzheimer's and chronic lung disease, Barry's life slipped away at 18:45 hours on May 22, 2009. To those of us who cared for him all of those years it was a sad but merciful end to what to him must have been his greatest nightmare.

I'll tell you something Nik as an aside, even when Barry no longer remembered his sisters and thought I was his mother, unbelievably he could recite the nomenclature and cyclic rate of the M-60 Machine gun, grim testimony to the lasting remnants of the experience and discipline of the United States Marine Corps.

Nik, I have many pictures of Barry and I'd be more than happy to share them you or with any of his friends. I will enclose some. Barry was awarded the Bronze Star for heroic action during Operation Marmeluke Thrust. I will enclose the citation as well. Barry served two tours in Vietnam, He also participated in Operation Eagle Pull, the evacuation of Phnom Penh, Cambodia 750411-750413, Operation Frequent Wind, the evacuation of Saigon, Vietnam, 750423-750501. He was awarded the Navy Marine Corps Commendation Medal with combat "V" for his "distinguishing" participation in 11 major combat operations during a nine month period in 1968 by a Capt. G.B. Meegan. He served two hitches in the Corps separated by a year and a half.



I wrote this poem and it was read at Barry's funeral:

Barry's Poem

Your corps is formed out on the green rifles crack and brass agleam to report to the Lord another Marine

We've walked the road my brother my friend So much to see around every bend Never thinking about reaching the end

Now we're here at the end of the day To remember your life, to bow and pray To say good-by and go our own way

The Good Shepard waits to take your hand There to reveal his grandest plan The great design you'll soon understand

Know dear brother that you're not alone We'll all meet there in the great unknown Together again, we'll reap what we've sown

Jack Miller