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Lincoln High Newsletter

Memories of then! News of now!

Kent

\$100 to the first individual to correctly ID all the players of Howe School B-ball team of 1959 - 60.

Chuck Hinners



Send your answers directly to Chuck - chuck@crfinancialconsulting.com

Editor asked the Class of 65 how the war in Viet Nam affected their lives.

Stan Schultz schultzmti@aol.com wrote:

The war, along with the fact I thoroughly enjoyed school, forced me to keep my grades at a respectable level (I wanted to stay out of lillian hornigold's grasp). I had wonderful letters from Bill Heilman when he was in Marine boot camp and from Don (Hodag) Solie when he was aboard ship. Over drinks Nick Brazeau and I recently exchanged reminiscences about going to Milwaukee and standing in line for hours while our paper work was processed and we were given our physicals. I had spent the evening before at the Brass Rail taking to one of the go-go dancers and just barely made it back to the hotel where we were billeted for the 5:00AM role call, at 19 I could still do those things. My closest call with induction was when Hodag and I almost joined the National Guard with Jim Grabowski and Donny Anderson (they played for the Packers). In addition to what I can recall three of my closest friends had some great stories; Bill Heilman, Hodag, and Chuck Hinners. Most of their tales define the word droll.

Dave Zach dzfxdxt@yahoo.com wrote:

Hello Cambridge Kent, oops 'cuse me,,, Col. Kent Vasby,,, Sir

In a similiar situation, I joined the Navy to avoid the draft. Actually, I had already received my draft notice! I would have probably never considered the military otherwise.

Overall, it was a good experience for me. I wanted to fly, and the Navy provided that opportunity for me. I got into the Navy Air wing and ended up in a Helicopter Combat Support Squadron. Our duties were (primarily) to provide rescue service for our carrier based fixed wing aircraft, flying missions in Viet Nam. In addition to that, I was also sent to school to be a jet engine mechanic, and provided maintenance service for the Gas Turbine powered, Helicopter engines. So when I wasn't flying as a rescue crew member, I worked on the engines, and oher mechanical systems on the bird. Not to mention less glorious sounding jobs!

So, I wasn't directly involved in the nasty realities of the Viet nam war. Only the aftermath. Some of our aircraft

came back so badly shot up, that they would have to ditch into the sea, and we would go pick them up before the sharks got them. Those guys were really happy to see us!! Got lots of free drinks when we were released for R&R!

I missed 4 years of life in the regular world, but in honesty, when I got out of high school, I didn't have a clue anyway. It forced me to become responsible for myself, and grow up quickly. In addition to that, I learned a work ethic that served me well in the civilian world.

So no complaints. Had I accepted the draft, who knows what would have happened? I know that many who were involved in the Viet Nam war, have/had terrible long term consequences, so I consider myself very fortunate to have come out of it mentally and physically unscathed.

dave zach