

B/2/8 Chapter
By George Hosso

B/2/8 Inf was granted a chapter in the 4th Div Assoc. I along with Vice Pres John Shaeffer, 1st platoon LT John Starkey and Chuck Emery picked up the charter at the 2014 reunion in Lexington, Ky. At the time the chapter was organized we had 37 members.

The first meeting of B/2/8 was held at the Embassy Suites Crystal City Wash DC over Veterans Day 2014 so we could attend the 30th Anniversary of The Wall, but mainly to honor our company commander who we served with in Vietnam Major General Richard B Griffiths (Ret) now that his headstone was in place at Arlington National Cemetery. Richard "Six" had passed away February 12 2013. When his funeral was held at Arlington on Sept 27 2013, 15 of us along with four wives attended. LT John Starkey mentioning that after taps was played he heard "Six out".

After the service and reception we made a visit to The Wall where we met with Six's brothers and some of their family. The reception after the service was so crowded with people from all over the world where Richard had served that we did not have the opportunity to talk to his brothers. This was a chance meeting, not previously planned. We laughed and cried with them, learning more about our commander from his brothers and they about how our special bond with six had formed in Vietnam. Just as our meeting at The Wall was ending Six's brother Kent said "only Richard could have orchestrated this chance meeting".

During the ceremony at The Wall on Veterans Day B/2/8 placed the 4th Division wreath along the walkway. In attendance Art & Eva Cuellar, Tim & Mary Milligan, Roy & Janet Pline, Tom & Nancy Saumur, John & Francis Shaeffer, Chuck Emery, George Hosso, Mike Hughes, James Kelly, John P Smith AKA Smitty, Peter Weeks and Steve Wittenberg.

In January of this year B/2/8 donated \$300 to the 8th Inf Memorial fund.

This year the B/2/8 reunion was held in San Diego, CA May 12-16, home base downtown Embassy Suites. We visited Balboa Park to see some of the museums, the aircraft carrier The Midway, some attended a Padres night game which had a rain delay. first one in five years! One night we had dinner at Kansas City BBQ where the bar scenes were filmed for the movie Top Gun. Some of us took a day trip to visit the wine country in Temicula, where several sampled many wines. On the way back we stopped at a 60's style diner where the owner treated us all to strawberry shortcake for our service to our country.

In attendance for this reunion David & Kathryn Bassett first reunion for them, the Cuellars, Jim & Laurie Fort-Laurie's first reunion, Gary & Pam Henry - Pam's first reunion, Mike & Kathy Hughes who drove all the way from their home in Virginia. George & Aleta Jones, the Saumur's co-hosts, John & Elaine Starkey, the Plines, Marvin & Janet Wise, Ron & Cindy Wulff co-hosts. Don Cantacessi his first reunion, Andy Halverson, George Hosso, James Kelly, Dale Liefer his first reunion, Smitty, Peter Weeks and Steve Wittenberg.

A good time was had by all.

The B/2/8 2016 reunion will be held May 10, 11, 12 in Traverse City, Mich. at the West Bay Beach Holliday Inn Resort 800-888-8020 or 231-947-3700 and also May 13 & 14 in Mackinaw City, Mich. The Best Western Docksider 800-944-1615 or 231-436-5005. Roy and Janet Pline

are hosting. More info and itinerary contact the Plines at their email .address pliner_j@live.com

Hope to see some more first timers at this reunion

Best to all