

WELL ANOTHER YEAR

By Skypilot

Well here we go again another year shot in the butt. I do hope every one out there had a fantastic year and wonderful times over the holidays.

My Thanksgiving day was spent on the road, but it was well worth it. My son (The LT) and his beautiful lady got married on November 27. It was a great time for all and enough food to make up for missing turkey day. Besides I gain another beautiful, intelligent and successful daughter.

We counted up the Rangers in the room and there was a total of six, two retired and four active, plus a Marine and a bunch of prior military.



When the DJ ask all present and past to stand during the playing of "God Bless The USA" 3/4 of the room stood.

Because of taking over as Executive Office of his company his team's deployment has been delayed. Like one of the Team members said "break my heart"!

Christmas and New Years were great. Good times, friends and no snow....YEAH. It was hard to believe another year pasted so quickly. Just means I'm getting older I guess.

With the passing of the year a lot of good friends also left us, but will remain in our heart always. I had to perform one of the hardest duties one can perform. I lost a good Friend and Brother (in my Chapter) on November 8 and by his request performed his Eulogy. My heart and prayers go out to my

Brothers and Sisters of Wisconsin over the lost of Sister Wench who we also lost. So many more to mention all I can say is HOKA HEY (it's a good day to die, because that was part of their life, their passing) but as I said will always live on in our hearts and minds.

To all of our staff and our loyal readers I wish that 2011 is better then 2010. I wish all much happiness, good health and to prosper. It means so much to me to be able to sit here an express my thoughts and fillings to all you wonderful people, THANK YOU!

Well until our next issue I'll say goodbye and " KEEP ON TRIKEN' ", may The Great Spirit be with you from the Sun's rising to it's setting. Love you all and please keep reading.



The National Alliance of Families Mourns the Passing of - Lao General Vang Pao.

The General died, January 7th, of complications from pneumonia and heart problems. The following is excerpted from a story published on Time Magazine's website.

"Vang Pao, who was 81, is best known for his role in America's "secret war," a covert, CIA-backed campaign against Laos' Viet Cong-aligned leaders during the Vietnam War. In the lead-up to war, North Vietnamese forces cut tracks through the Laotian jungle, creating the supply route now known as the Ho Chi Minh Trail."

"Laos was also at war, split between the communist Pathet Lao and the Royal Lao forces. The Americans teamed up with the latter, working with Vang Pao and a band of guerilla fighters to disrupt the North's network of trails. For his 15-year fight against Southeast Asia's communists, former CIA chief William Colby once called Vang Pao "the biggest hero of the Vietnam War...."

".... Vang Pao and his fighters were all but abandoned. Thousands were killed and tens of thousands took to the hills or traveled overland to camps in neighboring Thailand. Some languish there still. Vang Pao was among the 100,000 or so Hmong who eventually made it to the U.S., where they were "resettled," primarily in California, Minnesota and Wisconsin. But America's erstwhile allies were not welcomed as heroes - far from it. The government did not officially acknowledge Hmong fighters until 1997. That year, Washington recognized their heroism with a small, copper plaque. Vang Pao and some 3,000 veterans attended the ceremony."

"Vang Pao's exile in America was spent advocating for Hmong refugees and bolstering the resistance movement at home. He helped found the United Lao National Liberation Front and spoke out against the forced repatriation of Hmong refugees living in Thai camps. At 80, he vowed to return to Laos to help broker peace between his people and the country's communist leaders - those leaders said they'd execute him if he tried. Vang Pao, like so many of the Hmong, never got to go home." www.nationalalliance.org

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