

# IN MEMORIAM GARY A. PURO



Longtime NDQSA members will all remember Gary Puro. He was probably the first person from Nam that ever contacted them. Gary would work tirelessly and pour over old rosters and use the Internet when it was really primitive, to try to locate ADA vets. He maintained our first list of members and would share that with anyone looking for a buddy from the service.

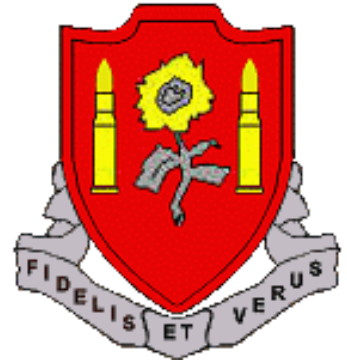
He is the main reason we have so many G-29th Searchlight people in the association. He worked quietly and was also one of the main people tracking the passing of members.

Sadly, we now have to report his own passing. In his honor, starting in 2014 the NDQSA Rosters with have a tribute to Gary printed on the front cover. Thank you Gary for all your service to NDQSA these many years. Amen Brother.



*We humbly pray that our NDQSA veteran brother Gary Puro, who died on 6/6/13, will enter God's heavenly kingdom and that his friends and family will be comforted this day by those who knew and loved him.*

**Sam Hopkins  
NDQSA Chaplain**



## GARY A. "POPS" PURO,

Born 12/12/41. Hometown: Coloma MI. Drafted in 5/66, basic Ft. Knox, AIT at Ft. Belvoir.

Assigned to **G-Btry 29<sup>th</sup> Arty (SLT)**, sent to RVN in April 1967 and arrived on the USNS Gen. William Weigel (T-AP 119) at Qui Nhon and was then sent north to An Hoa.

Crewmen: Charles "Chief" Humbyrd (OK), Robert "Bobby" Blair (LA), Frank "Cotton" Daniels (TX) and Robert "Sleepy" Jones (UT).

Married to Chris since 1994. Children: Greg, Corine and Cala. Career in equipment repair. Hobbies: locating DQS Vets. VVA, VFW, VVW. Currently lives in Decatur, MI. And Tucson, AZ.



# President's Message

## Paul Hanson - June 2013



Hello again fellow air defenders! The reunion is almost here and lots of people are working diligently to ensure this will be one of the best yet. Dave McCray and Vicki are making sure that what is left of Oklahoma City will be in the best repair possible to show you the true spirit of the people of Oklahoma. They have truly had a season to be remembered and yet are waiting with open arms for our arrival. Please consider making a donation to the national [Red Cross's](#) efforts to assist in the reconstruction of those devastated areas of the city.

The Project Eagle monument committee has been working furiously to get the memorial at Ft. Sill completed before our arrival and with the dedicated help of the Museum and post staff, Luke Clark reports things are moving ahead quite well. Most of us will never know how much he, Vinnie Tedesco and Historian Paul Kopsick have done to make this memorial a reality. Well done gentlemen! Thanks also to all of you that donated or sponsored a brick.

If you have not made reservations in OKC for this event, I suggest you do so ASAP. It appears we will have a great turnout with many 'first-timers' and we need to have your pre-registration sign-up sheets sent to Allan Penwell so we know what transportation and dinner reservations are needed. Help us help you by registering ASAP!

For those of you that were not in Washington D.C. for the Memorial Day National parade, our own Joe and Nancy Belardo were honored to be the Honorary Grand Marshal for the Vietnam contingent of the National Memorial Day Parade and NDQSA were the first of the Vietnam veteran groups in the parade. We had a great group of our people there walking or riding era vehicles and carrying our NDQSA banner. Kudos go out to Paul Kopsick who arranged for Joe to be the Marshal and for our organization to participate and march/ride down Constitution Ave. as honored veterans. Thanks to all who participated and especially to Nancy who patiently sat through the parade next to Joe and made the event even better!

This will probably be the last message before the reunion so I will be looking for as many of you as possible to meet my there. Come by and say hello and bring your family. I would love to meet them. Until then peace and good cheer to all and stay healthy! -- PDH



**Minutes of  
NDQSA Board of Directors and Executive Officers  
Special Reunion Meeting April 16, 2013**

<b>Members Present</b>	<b>Time in</b>	<b>Time out</b>
President: Paul Hanson	1:57 PM EST	3:04 PM EST
VP: John Huelsenbeck	1:59 PM EST	3:04 PM EST
VP: Bob Cuce	2:00 PM EST	3:04 PM EST
Secr: Dave McCray	1:57 PM EST	3:04 PM EST
Treas: Allan Penwell	Not Available	Not Available
Past Pres: Bob Lauver	1:58 PM EST	3:04 PM EST
Director: Joseph Belardo	Not Available	Not Available
Director: Luke Clark	1:58 PM EST	3:04 PM EST
Director: Bruce Geiger	2:00 PM EST	3:04 PM EST
Director: Duane Gettler	Not Available	Not Available
Director: Paul Kopsick	1:57 PM EST	3:04 PM EST
Director: Sam Hopkins	1:59 PM EST	3:04 PM EST
Director: Nagelschmidt	1:59 PM EST	3:04 PM EST
ASecr: Garry Severin	Not Available	Not Available
Memorial Comm.:		
Col Vince Tedesco	1:57 PM EST	2:20 PM EST

**Reports of Officers:**

*President*, Paul Hanson – no comments  
*Past President*, Bob Lauver – no comments  
*First Vice President*, John Huelsenbeck – no comments  
*Second Vice-President*, Bob Cuce – no comments  
*Secretary*, Dave McCray – no comments  
*Treasurer*, Allan Penwell – not Available today

Next are discussions to *Standing Committee Reports* (note they are not necessarily in order of discussion):

**Membership Committee (Joe Belardo, Paul Kopsick):**

No Comments

**Nominating Committee (Bob Cuce, John Huelsenbeck, Dave McCray):**

No Comments

**Legislative (Bruce Geiger, Bob Lauver):**

No comments.

**Good Works Committee (Sam Hopkins, Bob Cuce, Bruce Geiger):**

Bob Cuce stated the sweat suits had been ordered and will be shipped for free. Bob Cuce also asked Dave to have a camera handy to take a picture of the delivery driver of the sweat suits for recognition.

**Publications/Historian Committee (Paul Kopsick):**

No comments.

**Reunion Committee (Bob Lauver, Bruce Geiger, Mary Severin, Paul Hanson, Sam Hopkins, Dave McCray):**

Paul Hanson opened the discussion after stating the Operation Eagle Committee voted 5-0 to accept the weapons art as per the e-mail circulated to Board members on April 14, 2013 11:25 AM from Paul Kopsick. A lively discussion was held whether or not to accept the draft art work. It was decided to remove the dates on the Vulcan art work. In the end, Luke Clark made a motion to accept the art work as is except for the removal of the Vulcan dates and it was seconded by Paul Kopsick. The final vote passed by a 10-2 margin to accept the art work with the date removed from the Vulcan. It should be noted two of the Board members that were unable to attend the meeting e-mailed their vote prior to the meeting.

A request was made to Paul Kopsick to verify that on the weapons art were centered correctly. Paul Kopsick stated he would verify the layout on a grid.

Paul Hanson asked that NDQSA pay for our speaker's (name withheld) room and meals at the reunion. A motion was made by Bob Lauver to pay for our speaker's hotel room and meals and seconded by George Nagelschmidt. Motion passed unanimously. Paul also mentioned he had requested a biography from our speaker.

John Huelsenbeck asks that we give away rooms each night. He suggested we think about 10-15 rooms per night and this cost would be taken from the NDQSA Treasury. He thought once word spread we could increase future attendance. Paul Hanson suggested we table this idea until the next meeting and for everyone to think about it.

George Nagelschmidt requested we think about going to Washington DC for next year's reunion and consider Memorial Day in May rather than Veterans' Day.

Bruce Geiger said he was able to add 20 rooms to the contract for Thursday, Friday and Saturday. He was only able to get 5 more rooms for Wednesday. A discussion ensued about the danger of running out of hotel space. One solution that was offered to Bruce by the hotel was to open more space as needed at the Marriott Courtyard one block away at the same reunion price. The board was unanimous that this was the optimal solution and no motion was needed since the Board had already given Bruce permission to exercise the contract.

*Special Committee Reports:*

**Operation Eagle Committee (Luke Clark, Vince Tedesco, Joe Belardo, Paul Hanson, Dave McCray):**

Vince Tedesco stated there has been no official letter received yet from the Department of the Army. The names of ADA casualties to be engraved on the Memorial will be proofed by Bruce Geiger, Bob Lauver and George Nagelschmidt after the proof is received from the engraver. They will also review any omissions (Note: the ADA casualty list was already circulated and reviewed by selected Board Members back in September 2012). Luke told the board he has in his possession the tool to place bricks. Any of the bricks can be adjusted to any other desired location. Luke Clark stated the premise of the names was if a person was qualified for the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial (The Wall) they were also qualified for our memorial.

Note: The formal acceptance letter from the DOA was received on May 2, 2013. See =====>

**Website Committee (Bob Lauver, Paul Kopsick, Allan Penwell, Bob Cuce, Bruce Geiger, Robert Schmeisser):**

Paul Kopsick will add the address and phone of the Renaissance Hotel on the website, the next Newsletter and Flyer for people to use for calling the hotel for the shuttle bus pickup from airport. There is no need for it to be added to the Registration page since it is only used by Allan Penwell.

**Special Projects – Restoration Notes -- Other:**

Paul Kopsick stated the Vietnam 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative partner application is being processed. George Nagelschmidt suggested the board members watch the movie Taking Chance. Dave McCray brought up a complaint he received on the price of the hotels. After discussion, the Board decided no action would be taken.

**Products Committee (Duane Gettler, Bruce Geiger, Paul Kopsick, Bob Lauver):**

Bob Lauver stated the design is not complete on the hats. Once the design is complete he will contact Paul Hanson and we can convene to have the Board approve the new design before new hats are ordered. Bob Lauver will investigate an (large scale for jackets) individual weapons patch. A request was made through Bob Lauver to be allowed to use the NDQSA art work to produce a patch for their special use. In the discussion, no motion was made to release the art work to anyone else. As Luke Clark stated the best "patents are only as good as we enforce them."

Motion to adjourn was made by Bob Lauver, seconded by Sam Hopkins and approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned!



SECRETARY OF THE ARMY  
WASHINGTON

MAY 02 2013

Robert H. Lauver  
President, National Dusters, Quads and  
Searchlights Association  
P.O. Box 276  
Selingsgrove, Pennsylvania 17870

Dear Mr. Lauver:

On behalf of the United States Army, I am pleased to accept the gift of a Memorial Eagle to memorialize the units and artillerymen who served as air defense artillery during the Vietnam Conflict.

This monument will be placed within Centennial Park at Fort Sill and will be a lasting reminder of the courage, dedication and sacrifice of those Duster, Quad and Searchlight crewmembers who made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our Nation and our freedoms.

Please accept my deepest appreciation for your generous and thoughtful gift.

Sincerely,

John M. McHugh

*Thank you  
+  
Best Wishes*

**50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War**

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



A GRATEFUL NATION THANKS AND HONORS YOU

NDQSA is now officially a member of the [50th Anniversary](#) group commemorating the Vietnam War. It is a support group that tracks and authorizes member groups to promote the history of this country's participation in the Vietnam War.

Our first sanctioned participation project was the 2013 National Memorial Day Parade. We proudly displayed this flag on the antenna of the M-151 SLT jeep we brought to the parade. NDQSA lead the Vietnam section of the parade right behind Honorary Marshal Joseph Belardo of C-1-44th.

## RESTORATION UPDATES

### QUAD-50 GUN TRUCK

We are very pleased to announce that [Robert Ratliff](#) of [History Fanatics](#) has acquired the loan of a nicely restored M-55 quad gun mount for fundraising purposes. The mount is on loan pending the results of fundraising.



It is already on the M35 deuce and a half acquired and restored with partial funding by NDQSA members. It is currently housed at the [National United States Armed Forces Museum](#), 8611 Wallisville Road, Houston, TX 77029. Click [here for link](#) to more restoration photos.

Robert has showcased the restored gun truck at several events in Texas, including a show in [Mabry, TX](#).



The plan is to make it look like Pete Labarre's quad "The Widow Maker" from G-65th ADA, circa 1967 at Dong Ha.

NDQSA will continue to accept donations for this project through our membership multi-form and direct these funds to them.

Robert has indicated that he plans to have the quad transported to Ft. Sill for the 2013 reunion.

Okay you quad guys, time to show your gratitude for keeping the memories alive for future generations to see!



## SEARCHLIGHT AND JEEP

Well, we still have not acquired the dysfunctional jeep and searchlight from the group in Pennsylvania, but we still have the searchlight they want back. Fortunately we were able to put it to good use when NDQSA was invited to march in the 2013 National Memorial Day Parade in Washington, DC. Just days before the parade, Paul Kopsick was able to line up a M-151 "Mutt" Jeep from a local friend and he agreed to have the searchlight put on his jeep and to bring it to the parade. Most people had never seen a searchlight jeep before and it looked so good leading the vehicles behind the NDQSA marchers. Way cool!



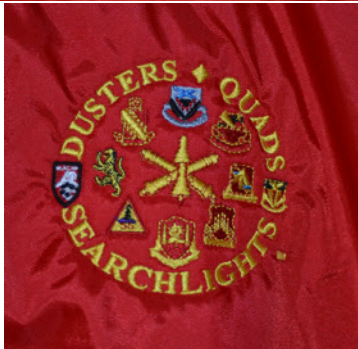
I spent part of the night before, cutting out magnetic letters to put on the bumper. Hats off to B-29 FA SLT#47!

We still have designs on acquiring the Penn. Jeep and SLT and bringing it down to the Tank Farm in Virginia to be restored. Joe Belardo is the point of contact and we hope to have more good news to report this year. Support this project with a donation in memory of Gary Puro and all 29th FA searchlighters whose lights have gone out.

Collared Polo Blk, Gn, Wh \$30

# NEW NDQSA PRODUCTS

T-shirts : Black, Green, Gray \$15



New Heavy Jacket  
Embroidered with  
Name and Weapon  
\$140+ any extras

# NDQSA PRODUCT SALES - 2013

## New Products Size Chart

Subject to stock on hand  
Give 1st & 2nd choice on color

**Light Jacket:** Medium  
Large  
\$85 XL  
XXL  
XXXL

**Mens Polo:** Small  
Black Medium  
Green Large  
White XL  
\$30 XXL  
XXXL  
XXXXL  
XL Tall  
XXL Tall

**Ladies Polo:** Small  
Black: Medium  
White: Large  
\$30 XL

**T-shirt:** Medium  
Black: Large  
Green: XL  
Gray: XXL  
\$15 XXXL  
XXXXL

## SPECIAL ORDER ITEM

**Heavy Jacket:** Medium  
Large  
\$140+ XL  
XXL  
XXXL  
(Duster) (Quad 50) (Searchlight)  
(HAWK) (Vulcan)

You can have your name, unit, years of service added at an extra cost.

Use the order form on the back of this page to order these items.

HISTORY BOOKS ARE SOLD OUT



NDQSA Cap



Light Jacket Embroidered with Logo and Weapons  
\$85 each



LIMITED QUANTITIES



Patch Coins and Pin Sets

NDQSA Patch: \$5 each  
Challenge Coin: \$10 each  
NDQSA Pin Set: \$8 each  
NDQSA Lucite Coin: sold out



NEW NDQSA BUMPER STICKERS  
Duster- Quad-50-SLT-HAWK-Vulcan  
\$10 each

New Product 50-cal



Bottle opener \$12 each

**2013 MEMBERSHIP INVOICE / ROSTER UPDATE /PRODUCT & BRICK ORDER FORM**

(tear off this page and mail it in with your up to date contact information and unit history)  
The 2013 form supercedes any previous forms as certain items are no longer available.

**Roster Contact Information (Please print)**

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Middle Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Nickname: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_  
State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: (    )            -  
Cell Phone: (    )            -

**Service Information (Vietnam) (fill out even if on file)**

Dates of 1<sup>st</sup> tour (m/yr): \_\_\_/\_\_\_ to \_\_\_/\_\_\_  
Dates of other tour (m/yr): \_\_\_/\_\_\_ to \_\_\_/\_\_\_  
Primary MOS: \_\_\_\_\_  
Primary Battery /Unit: \_\_\_\_\_  
Attached to: \_\_\_\_\_  
Names of bases:

Names/Hometown of buddies: (if there are many, list them on a separate sheet of paper)

**Rank (highest E-grade while in Vietnam)**

Grade: Officer: \_\_\_\_\_ NCO: \_\_\_\_\_ EM: \_\_\_\_\_

**Valor Awards**

PH (    ) DSC (    ) SS (    ) BS/V (    ) ACM/V (    )

If paying dues presents a hardship for you but you still want to be an Active Member, check box [    ].  
Some members have made donations to assist you.

I you want to get the newsletter only by email and forego the paper mailed copy, please check this box [    ]. Even if you think you checked it before.

**DUES – DONATIONS – PRODUCT ORDERS**

Make check payable to NDQSA.  
Shipping is included in the price of all items.

**Circle payment(s) for:** (2013) (2014) (2015) (2016)

**Dues:** \$25 per year (Jan-Dec)            \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Donations: \*Operation Eagle\***            \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Quad-50 restoration            \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Searchlight Restoration            \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*31st Reunion Good Works Project \*    \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**NEW \* Bumper stickers:**    @ \$ 10    \_\_\_\_\_  
(Duster)(Quad) (Searchlight)(HAWK)(Vulcan)

**Challenge Coin:**    \_\_\_\_\_ coin @ \$10    \_\_\_\_\_

**NDQSA Pin Set:**    \_\_\_\_\_ sets @ \$8    \_\_\_\_\_

**50-cal bottle opener**    \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$12    \_\_\_\_\_

**NDQSA T-shirt** (black) (gray) (green)  
SIZE: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$15 each \_\_\_\_\_

**NDQSA Polo T-shirt** (reg) (tall) (women's)  
SIZE: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$30 each \_\_\_\_\_  
(white) (black) (green)

**NDQSA Light jacket**  
SIZE: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$85 each \_\_\_\_\_

**NDQSA Heavy Embroidered jacket**  
SIZE: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$140 each \_\_\_\_\_  
(Duster)(Quad) (Searchlight)(HAWK)(Vulcan)

**NDQSA Patch**            \_\_\_\_\_ \$5 each    \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL            \_\_\_\_\_

**Mailing Label** —>  
**Cut out**  
**Use tape**

**NDQSA**  
**PO Box 2903**  
**Fairfax VA 22031-2903**



# 2013 NDQSA \*OK CITY\* REUNION PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

< READ EVERYTHING >

**“ The eagle has landed  
...never forget”**

**31st NDQSA Reunion**

**Oklahoma City, OK  
August 7-11, 2013**

**WWW.NDQSA.COM**

Name: (print)

Cell Phone Number:

Which days are you planning to attend the reunion? (circle)

**August** 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14  
M T W T F S S M T W

Remember to make your hotel reservations ASAP to insure room availability. If you have already made your reservations check this box [  ].  
**If you are local or not staying at the reunion hotel check this box [  ].**

To help in planning for reunion activities please pre-register now and send in fees for the following activities. As always, should something unforeseen happen and you can't attend the reunion, you will receive a refund.

**Thursday's bus shuttles and Friday buses to Ft. Sill will depart from the Renaissance**

ACTIVITIES	Persons/Amount
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> : 0900-1830 hrs - Oklahoma City attractions	\$30 x ___ / _____
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> : 0900-1600 hrs Ft. Sill, Museums, Ceremony	\$35 x ___ / _____
<b>Note: Everyone going to the Friday memorial services is expected to sign up for the bus trip, unless you have other arrangements and coordinate with us first. Note: access to Ft. Sill will be as a group.</b>	
Saturday 10 <sup>th</sup> Luncheon Banquet with Guest Speakers,	(\$40 per person) x ___ / _____
Voluntary donation to 2013 reunion's service project fund	(any amount) _____
Reunion registration fee <b>make sure you add it in to your total!</b> (\$20 for individual/ \$25 per family)	\$ _____

Total >>>> \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Wednesday 7 August 2013**  
Setup and Registration  
Local Attractions

**Thursday 12 July 2012**  
**Bus Shuttles planned**  
**There are fees at some of the attractions**

**Oklahoma City Attractions**  
OKC Zoo & Botanical Gardens  
Science Museum  
Remington Park Casino  
OKC National Memorial & Museum - Murruh Bldg.  
Myriad Botanical Gardens

**Bricktown Entertainment District**  
Redhawk Ballpark  
National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum  
Museum of Art  
American Banjo Museum  
OK Heritage Museum

**Boathouse District**  
Oklahoma River  
Stockyards City  
State Fair Park  
The Outlet Shoppes  
  
Evening Hospitality Room Activities

**Friday 9 August 2013**  
9:00 AM to 4:00 PM  
Bus ride to Ft. Sill, museums and Memorial Service  
Cost \$35.00 per person for the bus

Pick up at the Marriott Renaissance  
Travel to \Return to Hotel  
  
Evening Hospitality Room Activities

**Saturday 10 August 2013**  
9:00 AM – 11:00 AM  
Annual Business Meeting  
(all members required to attend)  
  
Noon – 3:00 PM  
Annual NDQSA Banquet  
Cost \$40 per person

Honored Speakers  
Awards and Presentations  
Evening Hospitality Room Activities  
Fundraising Activities and Auctions

**Make your pre-registration check payable to NDQSA and mail to the NDQSA Treasurer:  
Cut out this address and tape to your envelope ->**

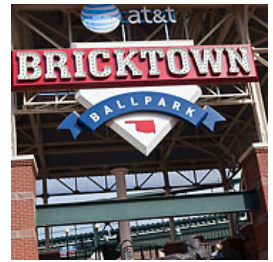
**Allan Penwell, NDQSA,  
2408 N. Nottingham Ct.,  
Champaign, IL 61821-7017.**



# 31th Annual NDQSA Reunion

## Oklahoma City, OK

### August 7-11, 2013



**The eagle has landed...never forget"**

NDQSA is pleased to have our 31st annual reunion in Oklahoma City and to dedicate the NDQSA's ADA Memorial at Ft. Sill, the new home of the Air Defense Artillery branch. The fundraising has been a great success and we hope everyone that sponsored a brick for the memorial will try to make it for this "once in a lifetime" ceremony.



**Marriott Renaissance  
Hotel & Convention Center  
10 North Broadway Avenue  
Oklahoma City, OK 73102  
(405) 228-8000  
1-(800)468-3571**

[www.marriott.com/okcbr](http://www.marriott.com/okcbr)  
**Group code 'NDQSA 2013'**

Room Rate:\$109 + tax  
single or double.

Discounted Buffet Breakfast  
\$10 + tax and gratuity.

Special event parking rates at the public facility  
next to the hotel. Discount Hotel Valet Parking

**\*\*\*IMPORTANT NOTICE \*\*\***

**Due to a record turnout the Renaissance is  
nearly sold out . We have arranged for  
another block of rooms at the nearby  
Marriott Courtyard. SEE PAGE 11**

**Wednesday 8/7/13** Afternoon:  
Registration opens in Hospitality Suite.  
On your own exploring around the city.  
Hospitality Room open until ~12:00 PM

**Reunion Registration Fee:**  
(\$20 for individual/ \$25 per family)



**Thursday 8/8/13 All Day -  
Bus Fee: \$30**

We plan to arrange for shuttle  
buses to ferry people back  
and forth to local attractions  
which include the OKC  
Science Center, Zoo, Casino  
(all in same area within short  
walking distance of one  
another), National Cowboy &

Western Heritage Museum,  
Myriad Botanical Gardens and  
Bricktown (are a few blocks  
from the hotel) and the  
Oklahoma City Memorial -  
Murrah Building  
Evening: Hospitality Room



**Friday 8/9/13 All Day**  
Bus Trip to Ft. Sill for dedication.  
All attendees are expected to  
register for the bus trip.

**Bus Fee: \$35**

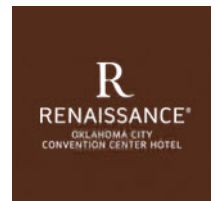
Fort Sill for dedication of the ADA  
Vietnam Memorial and other  
activities including ADA & Field  
Arty Museum visits.



Evening: Hospitality Room open until ~12:00 PM

**Saturday 8/10/13**  
9 am-11 am Annual NDQSA  
Business Meeting.  
9am-11am Women's Continental  
Breakfast in the Hospitality Rm.

12 PM-3:30 PM NDQSA  
Luncheon Banquet & Awards **\$40 per person**  
Hospitality Room Events 7 PM-?  
(raffle, auctions, etc.)



**Sun.8/11/13:** 9 AM Chaplain's Service in Hospitality  
Room followed by cleanup and out by noon.

## REUNION OVER-FLOW HOTEL



### Marriott Courtyard Downtown

2 West Reno Avenue · Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73102  
1-405-232-2290

NDQSA Members can make toll-free reservations using 1-800-217-9905, using the **Reunion Rate Code 'NDQS'**  
**King:** Rate \$129 **Double Queen:** Rate \$129

We have created an on-line reservation links for NDQSA members arriving as early as Monday, August 5th, and departing on or before Monday, August 12th. Use the links to the website below, which will allow you to make individual reservations within our block. You can adjust the dates as need be for the days you will be staying. Simply confirm the dates and click on the **Find** button and create your reservation online.

[Book King at Courtyard Oklahoma City Downtown for \\$129 per night](#)

[Book Double Queen at Courtyard Oklahoma City Downtown for \\$129 per night](#)

The deadline for making reservations within our block is **Wednesday, July 10th, 2013**. Please ensure all needed reservations are made prior to that date. Do it now!

This Courtyard hotel is just a block south of the Cox Convention Center, where the Hospitality and luncheon banquet rooms are located. The Marriott Renaissance Hotel is two blocks north of the Marriott Courtyard.

We have endeavored to do the best we can to accommodate those that have had to wait until now to finalize their plans. Do not delay any longer.

If you are having any difficulties you can call Bruce Geiger on his cell phone (914) 924-3224, leave a message and he will get back in touch with you.

## Helpful Reservations Hint!

First try to book your stay at the Marriott Renaissance and accept any nights that are not already sold out (like Wednesday the 7th). If you are arriving early and there are no rooms for those nights, then make reservations at the Marriott Courtyard hotel for those nights. It will cost \$20 more as it is a different hotel and we have no official contract with them, just a negotiated rate. When your nights open up at the Renaissance Hotel you can take the shuttle over and complete your stay.

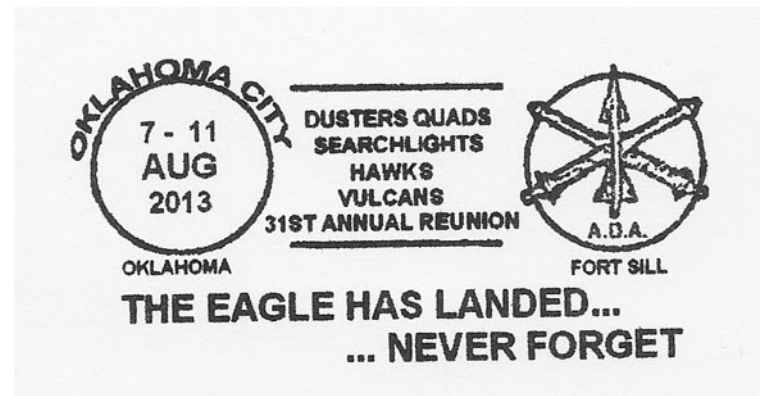
You can of course stay for the entire reunion at the Courtyard, or any other hotel in the area, but NDQSA cannot guarantee you any special rates.

## REMEMBER THE REUNION'S SILENT AUCTION

If you are attending the reunion, remember to bring something for the silent auction. Try to make it something worthwhile, patriotic, historical or 're-gift' something you got and don't need anymore. Proceeds will go into the Project Eagle Fund or the Good Works fund.

## REUNION STAMP CANCELLATION TRADITION CONTINUES

During the hospitality room hours on Thu. Fri. & Sat., we will be offering our traditional postal stamp cancellation. This year it will highlight the completion of Project Eagle and NDQSA's participation in the National Memorial Day Parade. Commemoration postcards have been printed showing the parade marchers on the front (see page 14), and a tribute to Joe Belardo on the back. The postmark identifies Oklahoma City and Ft. Sill and the dates. Below the postmark is.... Well look for yourself!



A minimum donation of \$1 Per piece is requested to cover printing and the stamp. Proceeds to go to Project Eagle Fund or other Good Works Projects. (While supplies last) If you are not attending and want a copy, send a donation to the NDQSA PO Box and one will be mailed to you.

# PROJECT EAGLE In production!!!

Well, its happening! Luke Clark is personally overseeing the construction of the foundation for NDQSA's ADA Memorial at Ft. Sill, OK.



There will be lots of pomp and ceremony at the dedication and we are requesting that attendees take a little added pride in their appearance this day. Yes it will probably be hot a humid, but this is possibly the most special day for our association ever! Look presentable and worthy of the honor. We are suggesting business casual (long pants and collared shirts (like our NDQSA polo shirt). Please pack accordingly.

Primarily though hundreds of individual donations and a few mega-donors, NDQSA has pulled it off. Project Eagle will be completed within about one year. We rolled the dice and planned our annual reunion for Oklahoma City without confirmation that we could even get permission to built it. This is truly a wonder and Luke Clark has been rock upon which we all now stand.

Thank you Luke and Lynette, words are not enough!



**\* NEW MEMBERS \* NEW CONTACTS \* + RECENTLY IDENTIFIED AS PASSED +**

We are very pleased that we continue to locate and bring new contacts into our Brotherhood. If they were in your unit or not, why not use the [email link](#) and welcome them to NDQSA.

[Gustave Dubbs](#), A-763 '42-45

Vernon McPherson

[Edward Manning Jr. B-1-44 '67](#)

Charles Klimes, B-1-44 '67

[Gordon Gasser A-1-44 '66-67](#)

James Galoch, A-1-44 '67

Joseph Colistro, A-1-44 '67

[Dwayne Anders, Assoc. Iraq](#)

Lynn Burgess, G-65 '70-71

[Arney Bryant, A-4-60 '68-69](#)

**[Roderick Lawrence, B-1-44 '69-70](#)**

William Washington, D-4-60 '66-67

[Timothy Antonneau, B-29 '70](#)

[Dennis Shelley, C-5-2 '67-68](#)

[Scott Holcomb, G-65 '66-69](#)

[Paul Carter, A-4-60 '69-70](#)

Barry Stephenson, D-71 66-71

Jess Franks, D-4-60 ;71-72

Alan Peacock, B-1-44 '69

Robert Jones, E-41 '70-71

Richard Davis, H-29 '67-68

So how did we find all these guys in just a few months? Well we worked at it. We implore you to remember names and share them with us. Check your papers, photo albums and letters home.

The 2013 Roster will have all the latest names and updated contact information. It is sent out to all active (dues paying) members.

Edward Neely, B-1-44 69, 1972  
Russell Flipp, C-1-44 68, 1975  
Marvin Sanders, A-1-44 69, 1980  
Jewell Carr, A-1-44 69, 1980  
Jimmy Bryant, D-1-44 69, 1982  
John Lennen, A-1-44 69, 1985  
Edward Monroe, D-1-44 69, 1988  
William Van Arsdalen, H-1-44 69, 1988  
Donald Shaw, H-1-44 Nov98  
Larry Noble, G-65 68, 2002  
Thomas Marston, A-1-44 69, 2002  
William Hurley, B-1-44 68, 2003  
John Brindle, A-1-44 69, 2004  
James Kinkle, G-65 68, 2005  
Henry McDaniels, G-65 68, 2005  
Ralph Worley, G-65 69, 2007  
Ora Castle, G-65 69, 2007  
Clayton Claybourn, G-29 69, 2007  
Ernest Romero, C-1-44 69, 2007  
Calvin McCowan, B-1-44 68, 2007  
Peter Struglinski, D-71 '67-68 11Nov07 NH  
Joe Spencer, C-1-44 69, 2008  
Richard Smith, B-1-44 68, 2010  
Duane Liddell, G-65 68, 2011  
Paul Henderson, B-1-44 68, 2011  
Willie Ford, D-5-2 '67-69 5Jan11 PA  
Clinton Pulley, C-1-44 '66-67 Aug12  
Chester Wentling, G-29 '67-68 15Oct12 TX  
Peter Them, C-1-44 '68-69 21Nov12 SC  
Timothy Sehenke, H-4-60 '69-71 1Jan12 CA  
Ben Clarke, G-29 '68-69 5Feb13 GA  
Clifton Floyd III, A-1-44 27Feb13  
Asa Fitzpatrick, C-1-44 13Mar13 WV  
Tamla Lee Brown, G-29/1-44 '67 13Mar13  
Gary Puro, G-29 '67-68 6June13 AZ/MI

**We honor and mourn those that have passed. "Rest in Peace, Brothers"**

If you know or hear of any other brothers passing please contact the historian.

# 2013 National Memorial Day Parade

-Paul Kopsick, Historian

Well it happened very quickly. Within one month, we not only heard about the [National Memorial Day Parade](#) being coordinated by the [American Veteran's Center](#) but NDQSA was allowed to march in the parade down Constitution Ave in our Nation's Capital. We were also able to nominate one of our own to be a marshal in the parade.

NDQSA Charter Member Sgt. Joseph Belardo of Charlie Battery 1/44th ADA was selected to be the Honorary Marshal for the Vietnam War portion of the parade. NDQSA was granted the added honor of marching right behind him and wife Nancy as they lead the Vietnam portion of the parade.

Joe and Nancy were treated to several special events just before the parade and got to meet with Grand Marshals JR Martinez, Joe Mantegna, Gary Sinise, singers Taylor Hick and Trace Adkins; and Redskins QB Robert Griffin III.



NDQSA prepared a special NDQSA Challenge Coin to be presented to Gary Sinise, engraved with the name "LT Dan Taylor" his character in the movie "Forest Gump".



News of the event was posted on the NDQSA FORUM and emails were sent out to those in reasonable proximity to Washington DC inviting them to come and march. NDQSA members, wives and Associates came in from as far as Florida, New York, Michigan and California to be in the parade as well as a number of "locals". It was a special day for everyone involved, even those that marched before in other parades.



Here is the entire group, with Joe's banner in front, Joe and Nancy in the car, and the NDQSA banner being held by Paul Hansen, Bruce Geiger, Col's Vickers and Tedesco and their wives. Marchers included: Robert Anderson USMC, Steve Belt, Edith Clark (Donut Dollie), Mel Crum, Bob Cuce, Duane and Mary Gettler, Terry and Becky Gorby, Al Hansen, John Huelsenbeck, Judy Jenkins and Ann Kelsey, Paul Kopsick, Dave McCray, Bob Parks and wife, Steve Renwick, Dennis Ruth, and Jim Smith. During the parade we picked up another Marine, Jackie Taylor joined us halfway and perennial "no-show" Willie Wong joined us for the last 200 feet. Better late than never!

This is the YouTube link to the [Parade](#). We are at 1:02:45





JR Martinez Grand Marshall and Joe with Trace Adkins

Another highlight was the chance for NDQSA founder John Huelsenbeck to wear the same small sign he wore on his back in the a parade he marched in, the 1986, the Vietnam Veteran’s Parade in Chicago, IL.



Here is the NDQSA contingent preparing to turn left onto Constitution Ave and lead off the Vietnam War section.



John Huelsenbeck got to ride with Jim Smith, Al Hansen and Steven Belt in a Marine 3/4-ton. How Appropriate.

Just before leaving the staging area, NDQSA stands and salutes Ursula and Gabriella Bowen representing [SFC Collin Bowen](#), killed on 14Mar2008 in Afghanistan. They are there as part of [Snowball Express](#), a service organization helping the children of fallen soldiers.



**National Dusters, Quads &  
Searchlights Association**  
P.O. Box 2903 Fairfax, VA 22031-2903

**Forward Service Requested**



**Air Defense Artillery**  
“First to Fire....Last To Leave”

**31st Annual Reunion**  
“THE EAGLE WAS LANDED”

**AUGUST 7-11, 2013**  
**OKLAHOMA CITY OK**

**WWW.NDQSA.COM**

Many of you have already paid for multiple years, so **look carefully at the mailing label for the year which shows when you are paid up through.** (2013, 2014, 2015 or 2016)

However, if you see the number **0000** we have not seen a dues payment in a while. If you can't afford dues, we fully understand so don't worry about it. We only ask that you update your status and verify your contact information, phone numbers and email. Just send in the completed form.

Rosters are printed out and mailed as soon as your check is processed and will contain the most up to date information. So please make any updates or changes **IMMEDIATELY!!**

If you have changed your phone #/email address recently send an email to [dqshistorian@cox.net](mailto:dqshistorian@cox.net) or leave a message at 202-262-9560.

To be sure you get the newsletter via email, tell your email program to accept emails from: [dqshistorian@cox.net](mailto:dqshistorian@cox.net) and [ndqsa@cox.net](mailto:ndqsa@cox.net)

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

The **National Dusters, Quads & Searchlights Association™ (NDQSA™)** is the original, official representative, and holds the longest, continual and official annual reunion for ADA Veterans who served in Vietnam. The NDQSA was founded in 1981 by John Huelsenbeck et al and has grown to over 500 active members with an identified directory of over 2200 ADA Vietnam Veterans and supporters.

NDQSA is an IRS 501(c)(19) non-profit veterans organization and is incorporated in the State of Indiana.

We welcome and encourage all ADA Veterans who served in Vietnam to join NDQSA and to share the fellowship, mutual support, and continued service to our Nation on behalf of all military veterans and active duty personnel.

***“Welcome Home Brothers”***