

February 2024



Dear Fellow Veterans,

It seems longer than five months ago when the Vietnam era (1967 – 1971) men of the 20th Engineer Brigade fell in formation in Indianapolis. Since then, we have enjoyed the beauty of autumn, the significance of the Thanksgiving season, the blessings that are rich throughout Christmas and now we are in the long winter months of perhaps more solitude than other seasons; for some of us, the beauty of a sunny day after a snowfall. It glistens! Can you see it? Like the most promising days of our lives, it doesn't remain that way forever. With sad hearts we acknowledge the Final Salute received by a couple of our brothers and the loss and grief their loved ones now walk through. Our times together are so important and meaningful.

When we met, you voted to hold the reunion in 2024 in North Carolina. Unfortunately, we could not locate a hotel in that region that could accommodate us with a rate lower than \$189/night, a fairly costly dinner, and that would allocate more than 25 rooms. Without a host living in that area, it was just too difficult to piece it together from afar. You had previously voted to return to Rockford in 2020, and those plans were complete until we had to cancel two months before because of the pandemic. So, I, with the counsel of other prior hosts, made the decision to hold it back here in Rockford and we hope you are pleased with that decision.

The official dates of the 20th Engineer Brigade Reunion will be September 26 – 28. Our hotels will honor the rates from September 24 – 30. The information for the hotels is enclosed. Please fill out and return the separate form showing who will be attending and their dinner selection for the Saturday evening group dinner. For planning purposes, please do your best to communicate early if you will attend.

During the Brigade's time in Vietnam, over 13,000 soldiers were deployed into three engineer groups having 14 battalions and 31 separate companies and detachments. Our reunion has less than 1,000 names on its roster. So, as always, feel free to extend this invitation along with its other two documents to others from the 20th Engineer Brigade. It is always a highlight of the dinner when men stand who are attending for the first time. What an honor to be with them. Reunion information can always be found at www.20thEngineerBrigadeReunion.com.

For loved ones who may be reading this, and your soldier has died, please know that his service was honorable and likely shaped the rest of his life. Thank you for taking up the role you did to support him and accept our sincere condolences.

If you have moved or know of other changes for someone that would affect the correctness of the roster, I'd appreciate updated information.

Due to mailing costs, this letter is being emailed to those on the roster who have given us an email address.

If you would like to host the reunion, please let me know prior to the reunion to facilitate communication during our meeting.

My wife, LuAnn, and I look forward to hosting you. Please come!

John C. Groh, Reunion Host

1307 – 31st Street
Rockford IL 61108



RockfordReunion2024@gmail.com
815-985-4879