



# REVETMENTS

The Official Journal of The Tan Son Nhut Association

A Memorial to the American Experience in Vietnam



## SPECIAL REUNION EDITION

### REUNION GUEST SPEAKER

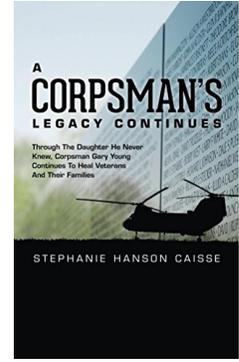
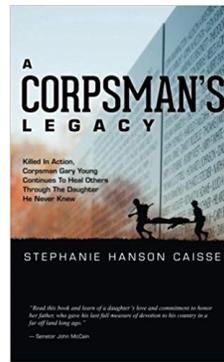
together like never before.

Adopted as a baby, Stephanie Hanson Caisse began a search for her biological parents without a clue as to where this journey would lead. Early on she discovered her birth father, Gary Norman Young, was killed in the Vietnam War before she was even born. Locating veterans from her father's world revealed his duties as a Navy Corpsman assigned to the Marine Corps as a helicopter crewmember. As her story unraveled, the mystery of her father's courage, bravery and finally his death, brought Stephanie in contact with thousands of Marines and their families, including those who died in the helicopter crash with her father. Her journey itself, became a legacy that offers hope and healing to those touched by the tragedies of war while honoring the remarkable relationship that exists between the Marines and their Navy Corpsmen. Finally, with the help of veterans, the Marine Corps Commandant and a United State Senator, Stephanie obtained the medals and honors her father earned for his sacrifice and service – her tribute to the father she never knew.

Corpsman John Little from Vietnam says of both books that "...the author has the ability to pull you and your emotions into the story...a wonderful bridge between the past and present."

Stephanie's journey is more than just an account of her father's life; her story is about the healing that is still taking place from one of the most turbulent times in our country's past.

Visit [www.garynormanyoung.com](http://www.garynormanyoung.com) for more information.



Her first book, titled A Corpsman's Legacy, chronicles her journey to find out about her father and how he died. It brought her in contact with thousands of Marines and their families, and recounts the tremendous kindness and courage of our nation's veterans as they talk openly about a time that shaped their lives forever. And, woven throughout the many stories, is the power of one man's legacy to heal the wounds of war. Christy Sauro, author of The Twins Platoon states it is "one of the best books I've ever read...I could hardly put the book down."

Stephanie wrote her first book mainly for the men who served in Vietnam, but was soon astounded by how popular her story became with all audiences. She has had numerous emails from mothers, wives, and daughters thanking her for finally helping them better understand what our servicemen and women go through during wartime. New York Times best-selling author, J.A. Jance, just wrote about her first book in a recent blog, calling it a "must read."

Her second book, A Corpsman's Legacy Continues, was published in 2014 as her journey continued. She uncovers even more information about her father and his crewmembers, and continued to help Vietnam veterans open up and realize that through all the heartache, there is light at the end of the tunnel. Her journey also followed HMM-364 to Iraq, as a new generation of Marines goes to war, including a stunning twist of fate that ties the Vietnam and Iraq wars

One of the best books about the Vietnam war and beyond as lived by the wonderful daughter Stephanie. Her dad was a Corpsman who met his goal because his daughter made it happen...his combat aircrew wings were presented years after his loss in a fatal helicopter crash. Both books are riveting and saying they are well told is an understatement. Highly recommended reading.

One of the Reviews for Stephanie's book.



## Reunion Special Comments

Hello everybody! Well, we only have about 35 days until our reunion in Little Rock. However, before I go any further, I have a very important announcement to make.

**This coming Saturday, August 10, at 5:00PM Central Time, is the deadline for making hotel reservations at our reduced rate of \$96.00 +tax, which includes breakfast for two.**

After that, hotel rooms may (or may not) be available, at the prevailing rate, which is approximately \$140.00/night. Even if you are not sure if you will be able to attend the reunion, I suggest that you reserve a room, as there is no penalty for early cancellation, provided you cancel at least 48 hours in advance of your reservation. Consider yourself warned.

OK. Now, let's talk about what we have put together so far.

We have our Guest Speaker lined up, and her name is Stephanie Hanson Caisse. You will find a short bio of her in this Special Edition of *Revetments*. Also, representing the American Widow Project will be Julia Fitts. And, for something entirely new this year, *Vietnam Vet Radio's* own Bennie Blount will be doing a live, remote broadcast from our Hospitality Suite. This will be on Thursday. However, we do not have the exact broadcast time just yet. If you haven't already tuned-in to these broadcasts, you can do so at: [www.vietnamvetradio.org](http://www.vietnamvetradio.org)

I have included a number of reunion schedules in this issue. They are:

1. Overall Reunion Schedule;
2. Friday Bus Tour Schedule;
3. Banquet Schedule

Please note that these schedules are subject to change. Any changes will be announced in our Hospitality Suite as soon as they are known. Here are some notes on each of the schedules.

**Overall Reunion Schedule:** Our reunion schedule is setup around the three core days of Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. We have people arriving in advance of those days; during those days; and departing during and after those days. That is why we always try to have all of our scheduled events on those three days, so that most of our members can attend most of the events. This will remain the plan for the foreseeable future.

**Friday Bus Tour Schedule:** This tour is our only outside scheduled activities of the entire reunion. We were only able to acquire one charter bus, seating 56 passengers. Therefore, the bus will be available on a first-come/first-served basis. We ask that those who drove to the reunion, or who have rented a car, volunteer to transport any additional people wishing to go on the tour. Note, that our first stop, at the Clinton Presidential Library, has an entrance/tour fee of \$8.00/person. However, the Association will be paying for that. Also note that the Lunch that is scheduled for 11:00-12:30 is as follows;

The bus will drop everyone off in the downtown "River Market District"

There are dozens, and dozens of restaurants, bars, shops, boutiques, souvenir stores etc. in this area. All along President Clinton Avenue.

This is "pay-as-you-go." Nothing is pre-paid in advance. Everyone is on their own.

This is a walking district.

Bus will pick everyone up where they were dropped off.

**Friday Banquet Schedule:** As usual, we will have a Cocktail Reception in the lobby outside the ballroom. This will be a "cash bar." As we always have last-minute setups going on in the ballroom, we ask all of our guests to remain in the cocktail reception area until at least 1745. At that time, we will open the ballroom for seating.

Please note that all times on all schedules are subject to change. Any changes, to any of the schedules, will be announced as soon as practical.

## REUNION SCHEDULE

**Note: Breakfast buffet is served daily in the hotel restaurant from:**

**0630-1000 Mon-Fri**

**0700-1100 Sat-Sun**

- Wed Sep 11** 0900-1300 Hospitality room setup  
1300-2000 Early Registration
- Thu Sep 12** 0930-2130 Hospitality Room Open  
Registration  
Vietnam Vet Radio Live Broadcast (Time TBD)
- Fri Sep 13** 0900-1500 Bus Tour (See separate schedule)  
**(Only 56 seats available!)**  
1700-1800 Cocktail Reception (Cash Bar)  
1800-2200 Banquet (See separate schedule)
- Sat Sep 14** 0900-1700 FREE TIME!  
1430-1530 Board of Directors Meeting  
1900-2200 General Membership Meeting  
Door prize drawing; 50/50 drawing; Silent Auction;  
Members Q & A; 2021 Reunion Location Announcement  
**Official Reunion Events Close!**
- Sun Sep 15** Breakfast available in hotel restaurant.

**See You In Tucson Sep 17-20, 2020!**

**FRIDAY BUS TOUR ITINERARY**  
**Friday, Sep 13, 2019**

0900-0915	Bus loading – outside hotel main entrance
0915-0930	Bus departs for Clinton Presidential Library
0930-1100	Tour of the Clinton Presidential Library
1100-1230	Lunch in the “River Market District”
1230-1245	Bus pickup & travel to the ‘Old State House Museum’
1245-1330	Tour Old State House Museum
1330-1345	Bus pickup & travel to ‘Arkansas Maritime Museum’
1345-1445	Tour Arkansas Maritime Museum
1445-1500	Bus pickup & return to hotel

**NOTE: Seating on the bus is limited to 56 passengers on a ‘First come-First Served basis.’ Please sign up for a seat on the bus when you visit the registration table in the Hospitality Room.**

**Banquet Schedule**  
**Friday, September 13, 2019**

1700 – 1800	Cash Bar (bar will remain open until 2100)
1745 – 1800	Banquet Seating
1800 – 1830	President’s Welcome Posting of the Colors Invocation POW/MIA Table Ceremony
1830 – 1900	President’s Remarks
1900 – 2015	Banquet
2015 – 2045	Guest Speaker
2045 – 2115	Scholarships Challenge Coin Presentation TSNA Awards
2115 – 2120	Reunion Schedule Updates
2120 – 2130	President’s Closing Remarks Retiring of the Colors

# **TAN SON NHUT ASSOCIATION 2019 REUNION REGISTRATION**

**LITTLE ROCK, AR  
Sep 12-15, 2019**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ GUEST NAME(S) \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

TEL ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

SPECIAL NEEDS (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Choose only the item(s) from the following that apply:

**Full Registration** (includes Banquet & Daily Access to Hospitality Suite, per person.....\$75.00

Number of people \_\_\_\_\_ x \$75.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Banquet Only** (per person) .....\$37.50

Number of people \_\_\_\_\_ x \$37.50 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Access to Hospitality suite** (per person, per day) .....\$17.50

Number of people \_\_\_\_\_ x Number of days \_\_\_\_\_ x \$17.50 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Pre-Order Reunion DVD** (each) ..... \$15.00

Number of copies ordered \_\_\_\_\_ x \$15.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL REMITTANCE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Mail this form with payment (check only) to:**

**TAN SON NHUT ASSOCIATION  
P.O. BOX 236  
PENRYN, PA 17564-0236**

**THIS REGISTRATION FORM WITH PAYMENT MUST BE RECEIVED  
NLT AUGUST 30, 2019**

Questions regarding Reunion Registration should be directed to:

Larry Fry  
Director of Membership  
Email: [lfry2@dejazzd.com](mailto:lfry2@dejazzd.com)



**TAN SON NHUT ASSOCIATION 2019 HOTEL REGISTRATION**  
**FOUR POINTS SHERATON LITTLE ROCK MIDTOWN**

925 S. UNIVERSITY BLVD & INTERSTATE 630  
LITTLE ROCK, AR 72204  
(501) 664-5020

*NOTE: This hotel is now part of Marriott Hotels International*

**TSNA Room rate: \$96.00 + Tax (Currently: 15%)**

**Option 1:**

You may make your reservation by telephone. To do so, call the hotel directly at:  
**(501) 664-5020**

Mention TSNA or Tan Son Nhut Association

**Option 2:**

You may also make reservations through Marriott's nationwide Toll-Free Reservation Center at:  
**(800) 721-7033**

Mention this code: **TS-1089**

**Cutoff date for hotel reservations at our reduced rate is:**  
**August 10, 2019 at 5:00PM**

Any questions regarding hotel reservations should be addressed to:

**Joe Kricho**

Director of Reunion Planning

Email: [67vietvet68@gmail.com](mailto:67vietvet68@gmail.com)

(Please put "TSNA 2019 Reunion" in the subject line)

