

Transcript of Henry Lazzaro Interview

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Actually I just got an e-mail from my sister about that. Saying that my parents were very proud that I served, but very frightened until the time I got there.

My daughter actually is a Naval flight officer and she is flying combat missions, going to Iraq and such so I know exactly the experience that my parents had while I was there.

What was your Journey overseas like?

I flew in 72 in Okanawa in the C-130 from Okanawa to Vietnam.

Can you explain your 1st impression on Vietnam

Fear. The 1st thing I remember seeing was a truck. A 6 by which was a military truck. Driving past the plane with a machine gun, not wearing a shirt with an flat jacket and a helmet. It kind of gave me the impression that things had totally changed just in an instant.

Did any of your family and friends serve in the Vietnam war?

Almost all of my friends served in Vietnam, back at that time we graduated high school in 1965, everybody was going to be drafted at that time. There wasn't a lot of resisting it was just if you weren't going to college you were going to be drafted. So just about everyone went into the military.

The people that you said also went to Vietnam did you stay in contact with them?

Just 1

One very good friend we happen to be in the same location and on a couple of occasions

a place called fubai.

Did you experience any positive things while you're in Vietnam?

Positive experiences from being in the Vietnam war were just really you learn that you can be successful under any conditions so yes I certainly grew up. I would consider myself I very immature when I graduated from high school, and when I came back from Vietnam I was a man.

What were you most proud of during your time in service?

That I served I was very proud that I in fact that I served.

What was your most significant memories of the Vietnam war?

My significant memories were fine flying out of the place called contean, an crashing into a tree. It was interesting because we were flying 10 feet off the ground there was One officer who was beating on the door, the gunner yelling to make the pilot stop and one officer was just kind of freaking out saying there's nothing I can do, then we crashed into a tree. Fortunately the pilot was able to gain control of the plane. And we didn't do a crash and burn but that's probably the most significant memory. The other one was on the last time on the cease of enemy fire was December 16, 1967 and I remember that because it was my sisters birthday, and I couldn't imagine how upset my parents would be if I died on my sisters birthday.

Did those experiences affect you in anyway during your time in the Vietnam war?

Just more experiences in life they didn't have any particular effect other than just memories.

Is there anything that you like to say that he feels important that we haven't covered?

I would say as a result of serving in the Marine Corps and I came back and decided to get vantage of the G.I. Bill benefits which allowed me to go to college and law school which were things that I would never of considered had I not been in the Marine Corps and served. Which led me to a very successful career that came out of the experience.

