

From Vietnam to the Philippines to Fort Hood, Texas

I was evacuated in January 1969, to the Philippines by plane on a stretcher because I got up to soon from the spinal shot, when I arrived in Manila, I told the nurse to give me a shot that would make me sleep for a while. When I woke up, there were about 15 Koreans inline waiting to shake hands with me before they went back to Korea. I remained in Manila a week watching the nurses netting on roosters fights, that's the big sport in the Philippines. I caught a ride on a coffin flight which was going to Charleston, South Carolina, the Colonel said that I had to ride with him, the Co Pilot, and Engineer up front, because he had 300 coffins in back. He had me set in the Co Pilot's seat and tried to show me how to fly the plane. He said we are flying on 45degrees and no one on our back asmath of 225degrees is allowed. He said the plane was in remote control to fly on this certain degree. When we landed in Engleadorf, Alaska, I had on short sleeve khakis and about to freeze. The Colonel said you can put on my jacket and be a Colonel for a day. He said that we will be here for 2 hours from a custom inspection. And then we have the long hop, to Charleston, SC.



Assigned to Fort Hood to retire

From Charleston to Dallas, I hadn't notified my wife that I was coming early from Vietnam, so I caught a taxi, from Love Field to my home. I knocked on the door, and an old friend named Edna Miller answered the door, and hollowed out, Emmitt is here. The Jeanette rushed to the door, and wanted to know why I was home early? I told her the problem and she wanted to know how I got in the Army in the first place. I told her when you are drafted, they shine a light in your mouth, and see day light from your rear you know that you have passed. I told her that I would be on a light duty assignment at the 63rd Engineers at Fort Hood, until I decided to retire. We then all 3 of us sat down, had a cup of coffee, and told me that Polk Miller, her husband had died of a heart attack, I then told that the ? and I, agreed that this was my last time to go overseas in the Army. When I reported in to the 63rd Engineers I was assigned to the Battalion Commander as acting Sergeant Major. This time I had a big Swedish Colonel, and whatever I said was ok with him. I was on the list to make Sergeant Major and was told that I had to serve 1 year in order to retire. So when my wife had a severe heart attack, I had to retire with 27 1/2 years and put 21/2 years on acting reserved and had to report to Fort Hood 2 times 2 days each time.

This is my story and there is so much more. I hope all that read it will enjoy and remember myself and countless other men and women who served our country proudly.

