

2021-22 Dedicated to our DPA



Vietnam Veterans Past and Present

For most Americans who read this they will only see the numbers that the Vietnam War created. To those of us who survived the war, and to the families of those who did not, we see the faces, we feel the pain that these numbers created. We are, until we too pass away, haunted with these numbers, because they were our brothers, friends, fathers, husbands, wives, sons and daughters. There are no noble wars, just noble warriors. Less we forget those who fought in Vietnam. A little history most people will never know.

There are 58,267 names now listed on that polished black wall, including those added in 2010.

The names are arranged in the order in which they were taken from us by date and within each date the names are alphabetized. It is hard to believe it is 65 years since the first casualty.

The first known casualty was Richard B. Fitzgibbon, of North Weymouth, MA. Listed by the U.S. Department of Defense as having been killed on June 8, 1956. His name is listed on the Wall with that of his son, Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Richard B. Fitzgibbon III, who was killed on Sept. 7, 1965.

There are three sets of fathers and sons on the Wall.

39,996 on the Wall were just 22 or younger.
8,283 were just 19 years old. The largest age group, 33,103 were 18 years old. 12 soldiers on the Wall were 17 years old. 5 soldiers on the Wall were 16 years old. 1 soldier, PFC Dan Bullock, was 15 years old.

997 soldiers were killed on their first day in Vietnam and 1,448 soldiers were killed on their last day in Vietnam.

31 sets of brothers are on the Wall.

54 soldiers attended Thomas Edison High School in Philadelphia. I wonder why so many from one school.

8 Women are on the Wall, nurses killed while nursing the wounded.

244 soldiers were awarded the Medal of Honor during the Vietnam War, 153 of them are on the Wall.

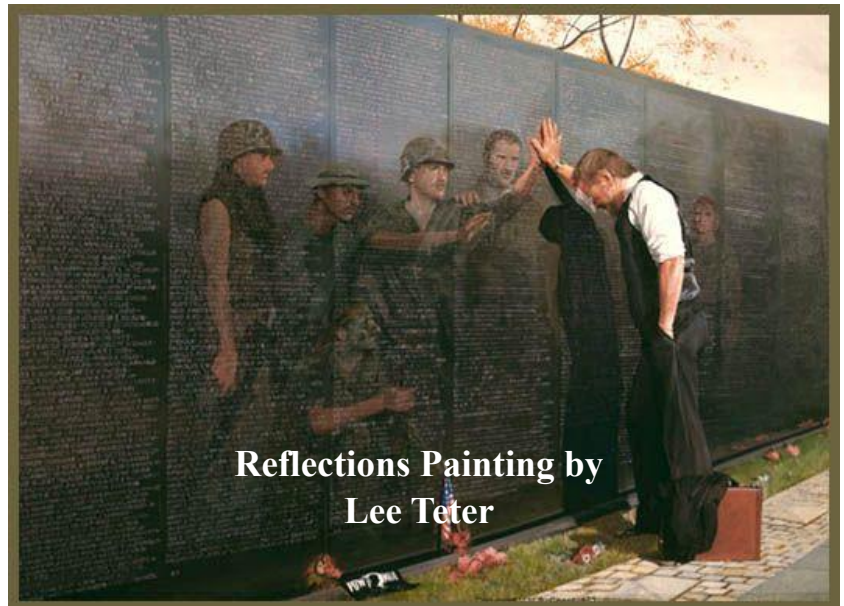
Beallsville, OH, with a population of 475, lost 6 of their sons.

West Virginia had the highest casualty rate per capita in the nation. There are 711 West Virginians on the Wall.

The most casualty deaths for a single day was on January 31, 1968 ~ 245 deaths.

The most casualty deaths for a single month was May 1968 - 2,415 casualties were incurred.

Submitted by Carl Manchester, Post 12074, Chiang Mai, Thailand



Reflections Painting by
Lee Teter

Update: The last battle of the Vietnam War was actually fought in Cambodia on the Island of Koh Tang 12-15 May 1975 during the Mayaguez Incident. The last 41 names on the wall are from this battle. (Unless casualties from earlier battles died of their wounds from 12-15 MAY). Of the last two lines of names, Loney, Hall, Hargrove, Marshal and Rumbaugh remains are all still unaccounted for from this battle. The last Casualty on the wall is Air Force 2nd Lt. Richard Van De Geer of Cleveland, Ohio who was killed on 15 May 1975 when his helicopter was shot down just off the Coast of Koh Tang Island. His remains were identified in 1995 and buried at Arlington National Cemetery in 2000.

[Further Reading Here.](#)

[Vietnam Virtual Wall Link](#)

Update submitted by Michael Stelzig CDR Post 12074.

This is info I got from my Stoney Beach officer when I was the Defense Attaché in Cambodia 2016-19, Mike Stelzig.