



Handout - "A Letter to My Wife"

A Letter to My Wife

Stanley Homiski, B Troop, 3/4 Cav, 25th Div

My name is Stanley Homiski; and I served with B Troop, 3/4 Cav, 25th Inf Div starting as an RTO and ending my tour as the Commo Sgt. I was married shortly before shipping out and have stayed married to the same woman for 30 years. I have two children—a daughter, Christin, 28 years, who is a doctor in Chattanooga, TN, and a son, Scott, 24 years, who works for the telephone company. This is a letter I wrote to my wife on May 25, 1968.

25 May, 1968

Dear Roberta,

Today is probably the worst day I have ever lived in my entire, short life. Once again we were in contact with Charlie, and once again we suffered losses. The losses we had today hit home, as my best friend in this shit hole was killed. He was only 22 years old and was going on R&R on the first of June to meet his wife in Hawaii. I feel that if I was only a half second sooner in pulling the trigger, he would still be alive.

Strange how short a time a half of a second is—the difference between life and death. This morning we were talking about how we were only two years different in age and how we both had gotten married before coming to this place. You know, I can still feel his presence as I write this letter and hope that I am able to survive and leave this far behind me.

If there is a place called Hell this surely must be it, and we must be the Devil's disciples doing all his dirty work. I keep asking myself if there is a God, then how the hell come young men with so much to live for have to die. I just hope that his death is not in vain.

I look forward to the day when I will take my R&R. If I play my cards right, I should be able to get it for Hawaii so our anniversary will be in that time frame. The reason I say this is by Sept., I will have more than enough time in country to get my pick of places and dates. I promise I will do everything necessary to insure that I make that date, and I hope that tomorrow is quiet.

We will be going into base camp soon for our three-day stand down. I will try to write you a longer letter at that time. Please don't worry too much about me, as if you won't, for I will take care of myself and look forward to the day I am able to be with you again.