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I chose to share the story called "We were babies in arms in every way" By Roger Donlon. This story catches your attention really early on in the story. By displaying the amount of dedication, passion and just the will to survive the main character in the story had for what he was doing. As a Captain in a Special Forces unit it is your job to stay alert and intelligent about the situations you're involved in. In this story the author paints a vivid picture of what it was actually like there at that hamlet that night. I believe that when you have great leaders surrounding you. The result it going to be good soldiers, for example in the story the author lets the reader know about a few of his men and how they died trying to either hold their positions on the line or how they were trying to get an edge on the enemy. Like I said leading by example is most important. The Captain literally went through hell fire to show his men that he was still there and fighting. Wounded multiple times he was still able to sustain the crucial hold on the U.S position. The harsh reality of war is that people die. As a widow the woman in the story gave birth too twins. Unfortunately one of the babies passed away shortly after. It is bound to happen that certain story's of war are forgotten, I guess it's up to the people reading the story to choose if it was historic or not. In the story it is said that John Houston and his baby are buried at Arlington cemetery. I personally believe that this story is real and the facts a true. That's a decision everyone has to make for themselves.

I decided to write about a story called "It was like 'Terry and the Pirates' " Written by Richard Olsen. Overall a good story but what I was disappointed with was the attitude by South Vietnamese. The author multiple times gave examples of how they would either would be lazy and in result not complete the duties of a soldier. They would be cowards and try to escape the battle. I understand being involved in a war is not a natural thing, but you have to adapt and overcome your fear and look to the greater good of why you chose to be there. Everyone would be lying if they said they were not scared while in combat. The way the South Vietnamese would come up with lies just too pretty much save their own tail is really disappointing. I also didn't like the fact that the American pilots had to fly using out dated equipment. Vietnam was the first war the United States actually started to evolve and use the helicopter as the main source of transportation in and out of the battle zone. You would think that they will have more funding sent their way. The updated UH-1 Huey was put into mass production in 1960. That is two years of production time before these events occurred. They should have had the proper equipment.

It is a rare phenomenon to hear something positive about the Vietnam War. In most cases we the public look at the big picture when really the positive events of the war require us to look deeper into this taboo subject of our history. Even though the main character of the reading said he was an officer and he was flying with a group of Warrant Officers technically officers have superiority. As said in the story he gave the Warrant Officer great respect because of the amount of experience they already had.

Wisdom comes with age. Most of the pilots he flew with were older than him and he was twenty seven. Something I thought was a great idea was to spread the knowledge of the more experienced pilots with the younger ones, by pairing them up into teams. That also created a higher level of comradely within the pilot community.

The Vietnam War is a very sensitive subject in the United States. I don't believe that should mean we as American citizens should shy away from it and not learn about the men and women involved not only in the fighting part of the war, but the political and what happened here on the home front. Those are all important components of the war. I just hope that we as a society can learn from the history books and prevent the same mistakes from happening again. Maybe doing so can create much needed positive closer for the people forever impacted by the Vietnam War.

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