If.I.Could.Change.One.Thing¡¡¡
We.Lived¡.They.Died¡

Bob Mitchell

Phan Rang, Phu Bai, Đà Nàng

April 1967-Dec 1968

If I could change one thing it would be: I was on post one night at the rear of the Command Post, across from the alert helicopter and next to the terminal. The new NCOIC of Tiger Flight, SMSgt Joseph, came to my post and asked for a copy of my orders. I asked him what he wanted them for, and followed it with, ƒIf.it¾s.for.that.commendation.medal.__.forget.itƒ I said something to the effect that I knew where I had been and what I had done, and that was enough. I was nearing the end of an extended tour in country and only cared about getting

home. His response was, I was thinking of Bronze Star; and that was the last said about it. This was a young trooper talking.

It's now 35 years later and I have a wife of 30 years and 2 girls and 2 boys ranging in age from 21 to 26. I wish I had kept my big mouth shut that night and given him my orders.

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