



**Return to Vietnam**



Mick Guttau and Heidi Guttau-Fox spoke at the Treynor Optimist Club on November 16 about their 17 day trip to Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos. Those included on the trip included Mick and Judy Guttau, Josh and Shelly

Guttau and their four children, Heidi and Rick Fox and their three children, Harold Bearden, Bill Stillwagen, and Dave Macedonia (veterans who served with Mick), and Ann Beckenhauer, spouse of another veteran.

The group left on June 29 for their 17 day trip. They found that they set several firsts for returning veterans. Judy is the only original wife of veterans who went there, although most of those who served in Vietnam were not married at the time. Mick was the only veteran who wanted to go to Laos (which is where he served). Mick was the only veteran whose family and extended family went along.

Heidi said that Mick lives by a motto he learned in the military, "Troops always come first." He treats his family and his employees that way too.

Mick's combat unit in Laos had 9 Cobra helicopters, 11 Hueys, and 9 Loach (light observation helicopters). Mick logged 981 combat hours, mostly in Cobras, but about 10% in Hueys.

The Cobra had two guns in the front. The left one was a 40 millimeter grenade launcher that would fire 250 rounds per minute. The right one was a Gatling gun that would rotate between six guns to prevent overheating and fire 4000 rounds per minute. The Cobra could also hold 52 rockets. One of the rockets used carried flechetts (nails).

**Calendar**

Nov 27 – Can kennel sorting, 2:00 p.m. for Cub Scouts

**Birthdays**

Nov 8 - Mick Guttau (recognized)

Nov 18 – Dianne Willenborg

**Anniversaries**

Nov 2 – Kirk & Lynell Vorthmann

Nov 25 – Ward & Suzanne Chambers

**Programs**

It would carry 2000 nails and the Cobra would fire two at a time. The rocket would explode shortly after being fired and leave a puff of smoke. The nails would kill everything within the area the size of a football field.

The Cobra had a 1400 horsepower engine. It carried 250 gallons of fuel and traveled at 135 knots. It would redline at 190 knots, which is just below the speed of sound. Breaking the sound barrier would make a helicopter uncontrollable.

Mick said that there are about 3000 Americans still missing in Vietnam. There is an active team still searching for them. There are about 300,000 missing Vietnamese and no one is looking for them.

In 1986 Vietnam started a new Communism. Under this form of Communism, people have freedom of religion, capitalism, and few regulations. There is still a lot of corruption.

Mick and Josh Guttau will continue the story of their trip in two weeks, on November 30 at 8:00 a.m. at the Treynor Community Center.

**Meeting Minutes**

Bill Vorthmann opened the meeting on November 16. Keith Denton and Gary Funkhouser provided jokes and Judy Guttau gave the opening prayer.

Mick Guttau contributed to the Youth Fund because he was cited in an article in the Omaha World Herald in a Veteran's Day article. Keith Denton and his wife raked leaves and she lost her wedding ring. He was able to find it with a metal detector from the Optimist Club. Gary Guttau contributed because he stopped taking his arthritis medicine and his left hand became unusable. When he started his medicine again it returned to normal.

Gary Funkhouser, Ken Graham, Gary Guttau, and Bill Vorthmann helped with can kennel sorting. Next sorting will be November 27 at 2:00 p.m. **Thanks to the Pickle Barrel for furnishing the bags for the sorted cans and bottles.**

Richard Vorthmann won the 50/50 drawing. Mick Guttau won the attendance drawing, but did not collect. There were 15 members and 3 guests at the meeting.

There will be a Board Meeting next week after the club meeting.

Nov 23: Bob Kuchel, new chiropractor in Treynor  
 Nov 30: Vietnam Trip- Josh and Mick (part 2)

**Prayers**

Nov 23 –  
 Nov 30 – Mick Guttau  
 Dec 7 – Dee Guttau  
 Dec 14 –  
 Dec 21 – Dennis White