

Salvatore Popolo  
Born 6/20/1948 - Died 1/12/2021

Sal was drafted into the United States Army on March 7th 1968 along with me and Bobby Magnavito. We met in Ft Hamilton Army Base and after intense testing we were shipped to Ft. Gordon, Georgia for Basic training. After 2 months of basic we were shipped to Ft Jackson, South Carolina for advanced Infantry training. After that we were told to report to Oakland California on August 7th 1968 where we were shipped to Vietnam. We were assigned to Charlie Co. 3/22nd, 25th Infantry Division. Sal went to the 3rd platoon and I went to the first Platoon. After our 3rd day in the field we encountered the enemy in countless firefights in Tah Ninh, five miles from the Cambodian Border. Sal was wounded on Thanksgiving Day by an enemy AK 47 bullet in his thigh. After 2 months of hospitalization and rehab in Cu Chi, Vietnam he was sent home. Sal was awarded the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star and was also honorably discharged with the rank of Sergeant E5.

30 years went by and one day I decided to look Sal and Bobby up. I found them still living in Brooklyn and gave them a call. We agreed to have Dinner at Gino's Italian Restaurant in Brooklyn. It was a great reunion of old friends that you would not believe. We talked so much that Gino's had to kick us out at Midnight. Ever since then we became the best of friends again.

He is survived by his Wife Adrian and Daughters, Jennifer and Michelle.  
Granchildren, Madelyn, Luke and Isabella.

You will be sorely missed.

Yours in Brotherhood and Patriotism  
Joe Piazza

Pictured here are Sal Popolo and I on top of Nui Ba Den (The Black Virgin Mountain) in Tah Ninh Vietnam  
Three weeks before Sal was wounded.

