

Tribute to our fallen C/3/22 Hero's, created and assembled by Rick DeNomme 66-67.

Rick's Story of the Crosses!

I was asked by one of the officers to write up something about the memorial of crosses so here goes.

How many remember the reunion in Baton Rouge, Louisiana? I can't remember all the details but I do remember loading onto the busses and heading someplace for a Cajun barbeque and party. Along the way we got met by the police with lights a flashing. Of course right away we were wondering what was going on , remember? Well here it was a police escort FOR US. Wow, We never had a WELCOME HOME like that before. It was quite moving and I don't think there was a dry eye on any of the buses. After the bus ride we got to where the party was to take place. Once off the busses we had to walk a trail (uphill I might add) and along that walk were lined up crosses of all our KIA's. That moved me so much that I decided I wanted to make crosses of the guys that didn't come home while I was in country. So I made up 14 crosses of those in my era. I set them up at home and or while camping from then on.

About the time of the Milwaukee reunion I was getting more involved with the association and getting to know a lot more of the members and I decided that all the KIA's of ours needed to be remembered. Also at that time the pictures of them were getting found. So I then knew I had to include them.

So when asked how I got started I have to say it was not necessary my idea but ideas I took from others: Trevor Grange for inviting me to the 1st reunion to Bill Schwindt for finding us all and countless others who made me feel welcome. One other group of individuals who really put the idea into my head was Chuck Boyle and his committee in Baton Rouge. Thank you everyone and hope to see you in DC

I could not have done it alone!

Thanks to Joyce for all her hard work and patience with me, my granddaughter Ashley for doing the computer work of downloading editing and printing and Dave DeMauro for getting me the copy of pictures I have finally after 4 years of working on these have gotten the crosses done.

While putting them up I got to remembering the sacrifice's we all made and especially the ultimate sacrifice our fallen Hero's made. I firmly believe that this organization was put together so that we DO NOT ever forget our fallen comrades. The best way for that to happen is to save the funds needed to get to these reunions (not much of a sacrifice when we consider what our Hero's gave up). I hope each and everyone gives a lot of thought to attending the reunion for DC and be with the fellows you served with while we all march to the MEMORIAL WALL.