

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

U.S. NAVAL WAR COLLEGE JOHN B. HATTENDORF CENTER FOR MARITIME HISTORICAL RESEARCH 686 CUSHING ROAD NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND, 02841

Dear Mrs. Bui Quyen and Family,

I would like to express my deepest sympathy to you and your family on the loss of your husband and father, Lieutenant Colonel Bui Quyen. I know words offer little solace at a time like this, but please know that my thoughts and prayers are with you and the rest of your family.

I knew Colonel Bui only briefly but even though brief, the connection was immediate. The Vietnam War has always been one of my primary interests as an historian at the U.S. Naval War College. Over the years, I often wondered about South Vietnamese Veterans in America, knowing they do not get the same recognition or support as other American Veterans. Over two years ago, I decided to begin researching this very subject.

My inquires led me across the country to the Viet Museum in San Jose where I had the privilege and honor to interview Colonel Bui. His kindness, candor and vivid descriptions of his life as an Airborne Soldier of the Republic of Vietnam as well as life following the war are fascinating and clearly the hallmark of a true warrior. As a former Navyman, I appreciate the heroism and bravery he routinely demonstrated was a great inspiration to the men he led in battle all those years ago. It is rare to come across people with the leadership qualities Colonel Bui demonstrated throughout his life. His ability to adapt and overcome obstacles and setbacks in life are inspiring. I say inspiring because more than ever before, we need people in society who can inspire others when the chips are down to never give up their hopes and dreams.

I assure you that the personal life experiences of your husband and father are at the forefront of any of my future publications on South Vietnamese Veterans in America. If there is anything I can do to assist you in this time of need, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thành kính phân ưu cùng Chị Bùi Quyền và tang quyến Nguyện cầu hương linh anh Bùi Quyền sớm về Cõi Phật.

Mark E. Fiorey