

Co E (LRP) & Co C (Rngr) Assoc.

Daniel Pope
President

Telephone
Fax

29 November 1995

Mike Malone

Mike,

Thanks for your recent letter, I was beginning to get concerned because I hadn't heard from you in so long. I'm really sorry to hear about the cancer, but , I think your 'drive on' attitude will stand you in good stead.

I've just returned from visiting a very old friend who lives in Tennessee, also a Vietnam vet, who has cancer of the plural lining below his lung. They're giving him several months or less to live. It's going to hurt to see him go. He has a very positive attitude about it though, and that has helped me deal with it too. One of his last wishes was to be able to give me a gift. He new I couldn't afford to buy a flagpole and had cut and skinned a poplar sapling to make my own. The only problem was that the termites kept eating the bottom of it off and I had to dig it up and replant it frequently. As a result, it just keeps getting shorter and shorter. So, he bought me a flagpole. Needless to say, it brought tears to my eyes. I don't think anyone could have done anything more meaningful.

Mike, I really enjoyed "Soldier". It's absolutely outstanding! It sure brought back a lot of memories of my experiences in the military.

I've been working very hard at getting our new Association built up. It has been slow. I know that it's not a matter of guys not wanting to join, it's just that, as busy as people are these days sometimes things just slip through the cracks. It'll come around. As long and hard as I've worked to get this far I'm sure not going to give up. After all, "quit" isn't a Ranger word is it?

My wife and I will be making a trip to Asheville during Christmas. I wondered if it would be possible to come back through Waynesville to say hello? I'd hate to be that close and miss the chance. Let me know if you're up to it.

Well, I've got to close and get back to work. Thanks again for your letter and "Soldier". Please stay in touch, give me a call if you'd like.

Till next time!

Sincerely,