

THE MERRIMANS

SEPTEMBER 13, 2001

MARY LOU & ELDON KIEHLER
601 LIDO PARK DRIVE, APT 26
NEWPORT BEACH, CA. 92663-4401

DEAR MARY LOU & ELDON:

I DO APPRECIATE YOUR LETTER OF 7/30/01. I WOULD HAVE WRITTEN SOONER, BUT WE WERE AT THE BEACH IN AUGUST. I ESPECIALLY APPRECIATED THE PHOTOGRAPHS ONE OF WHICH INCLUDED ME (I THINK IT WAS ME, AGE 20!) BELIEVE IT OR NOT THIS IS THE ONLY, SHAVE DYE, PHOTO I HAVE OF THOSE BY GONE DAYS!

I ENJOYED YOUR LETTER AND THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN YOUR LETTER TO JERRY FIEN, REMEMBER JERRY ONLY THAT HE DID NOT LIKE THE ROUGH WATER MUCH AND THAT HE WAS SUCH A NICE GUY.

GOT CALLED BACK FOR KOREA - TWO MORE TIN LADS (AS GUNNERY OFFICER). BELIEVE IT OR NOT, ONE OF THEM ("ROAN", DD 853) HAD BEEN IN A COLLISION. LATER, AFTER READING ABOUT THE COLLISION OF THE "EVANS", BEGAN TO THINK I WAS A "JONKH". I OFTEN THINK OF THE "EVANS" AND ITS COLLISION, THE FACT THAT THE ENTIRE FORWARD SECTION (WHERE THE OFFICER'S QUARTERS - MY BOOK!) WENT DOWN. IN POINT OF TIME, WE WERE JUST LUCKY.

I'VE ONLY ATTENDED ONE REUNION

THE MERRIMANS

-IN CORPUS CHRISTI 6 YEARS AGO.
IT WAS GREAT! JIM WAS THERE AND
CARL WAS THERE AND WE ALL HAD A
GREAT TIME.

I'VE BEEN RETIRED FOR 17 YEARS.
HAD BEEN A DEFENSE TRIAL LAWYER
FOR 40 YEARS AND FINALLY GOT TIRED
OF ARGUING WITH EVERYONE. I ACCU-
ESLY CAN SAY THAT I'VE NOT MISSED
IT. I READ, I PLAY GOLF AND TEN-
NIS A COUPLE OF TIMES A WEEK AND
HIT THE ROLF TRACKS AROUND HERE
ONCE A WEEK. STILL MARRIED TO
LOONIE (42 YEARS) AND BOY'S STRONG!
SMARTEST THING I EVER DID!

JUST HEARD ABOUT THE N.Y. AND
D.C. AIRPLANE CRASHES. MAKES ME
SO MAD, I'M READY TO SIGN UP AGAIN
AND KICK SOME BUTT. HOPE THEY GET
THOSE PEOPLE WHO ARE (WERE) RESPON-
SIBLE.

WOULDN'T MAKE THE DENVER REDWIND
BUT HOPE WE CAN ALL SEE ONE ANOTHER
AGAIN SOMEWHERE, SOMETIME.

Kindest regards to all /
Don (& Loonie)

CC: TO THE GANG &

THE MERRIMANS

CC: JIM SCARIBER -
RICHARD SOUZA
JACK DROCKE MILLER -
CARL KNEKSTAD -
JOHN CORNWELL -
JOHN HARRIER
HENRY O'KEEFE -
[HAROLD HIGGINBOTTOM
④ JIM NICKERSON
JACK VAN PELT

④ MY FAVORITE ENLISTED
GUYS HERE IN BALTO.