

DAILY
COURIER-NEWS



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D. Ray Wilson
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All Phones
741-1800

Charles R. Anderson

Japan 213

Dear Chuck,

You remembered the right name, but you were looking in the wrong yearbook. You were a year ahead of me at Monmouth College. I have enclosed a couple of xeroxes from "Ravelings" to refresh what might be any remembrances you have of meeting me.

I can't think of any good reason why I have taken this long to reply to your letter of July 15--except to say that I put your letter away in my things to do file for an occasion when I could write a really "good" letter.

As you know, there isn't such a thing as a good time to write, so I have finally bitten the bullet and got this thing done.

Although we didn't know each other that well at Monmouth, your career and writings make me think we would get along quite well. Had I not been married prior to entering service, I think I might have taken a flier at the kind of life you describe.

I, too, was quite taken with Oriental way of life. Visiting Japan is one of my goals...but wife and now family create situations that make trips like that distant in terms of more than just miles.

You asked for a rundown of my activities, so here tis.

I finished my tour April 6, 1969. Spent six months humping in the Central Highlands (Dak To, Kontum City, Pleiku) with the 4th Infantry Division, then was able to get a job as Battalion PIO specialist becoming a combat photographer/writer, if you will. I had been teaching for one semester prior to Uncle Sam grabbing me, and so much more enjoyed journalism that I pursued that career after ETSing.

I got a four-month early out and 48-hours after my plane left Cam Ranh airfield I was a civilian again. I got into journalism just ahead of the Woodward-Bernstein era which made some breaks possible.

After working for a weekly paper for a year and couple of months, I joined the Courier-News as chief of their newly opened DuPage Bureau in Wheaton.

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Shortly after that, the Courier-News bought out the Wheaton Daily Journal, our main competition, and I was appointed managing editor. In 1973 I was promoted to be managing editor of all three publishing arms of the Wheaton-Elgin division of Copley Newspapers (this included the Journal, Courier-News, and eight weekly papers in the Schaumburg area.)

That's what I was doing when somebody tossed a copy of "The Grunts" on my desk. Damn few of my workers ever spent time in a military uniform and none in Viet Nam.

I was taken by the frankness and accuracy to detail. I am still puzzled how you were able to quote the PA address announcements and things like that.

Do you have total recall...take a tape recorder...or did you just recreate from memory and fill in the blanks? I'm also curious if you had decided prior to shipping out that you would be writing a book later. Again, your ability to flesh out your narrative with vivid detail really added to the book's impact. I'd be curious to know how you did it.

I don't know if you have seen Phil Caputo's book about his experiences as a Marine lieutenant, but it is good also. I met Phil at a party once when we were both struggling beginners. He has since gone quite far with the Chicago Tribune. The last I heard he was in their Rome bureau. Almost got his ass shot off in the first Lebanese war--was wounded as I remember. Quite a guy.

I am also sending along this clipping (sorry, I didn't save the jump page) which you might be interested in.

I'm afraid all the guys who went are realizing that "our" war is one we will have to keep to ourselves and not the type you tell your son about while bouncing him on your knee.

By the way, to finish up...I have a son now (Matthew, 3 on February 6) and a beautiful girl (Sarah, 4 last Sept.) My wife Sandy is a school teacher and now fulltime mother. We live in a ranch style home just west of Elgin on Hopps Road. I'll be 35 this Feb. 2--I'm a ground hog...

I appreciate your taking the time to write me regarding my column on The Grunts. I'm sorry my reply took so long...hope you will write back in shorter period. I think it would be a nice idea to keep in touch.

Let me know more of what you are doing in your next letter and what the score in Japan is these days of the sagging dollar and recognition of China.

Best regards,



David M. Stamps



Row 1: Bill McTeague, Jim Whalen, Jay Mock, Howard Fulford, Fred Shaper, Bob Tucker, Wayne Crum, Jack Garrett.
Row 2: Larry Keener, Dick Whiteman, Bob Hehn, Fred New, Ron Wilson, Bill Simpson, Bob Remmert, Gerald Allison, Marshall Peterson, Bob Styles, Steve Pettit.

Track

Twenty-three men are out for track this year, nine of whom are returning lettermen. This year's team is quite strong in the running events, featuring depth to insure Coach Andrew's team of seconds and thirds. Led by Bob Tucker, Jim Whalen, and Steve Pettit, the track team will give tough competition to any other conference contenders.



Wee Scots Basketball

Under the able direction of Coach Woll, the Wee Scots compiled a record of three wins and three losses. After opening the season in a contest with the Varsity, the Wee Scots tackled the "Monmouth All-Stars" and came out victorious. The fast-moving team next met the Black Hawk College Freshmen and won handily. Following this, the Wee Scots met defeat at the hands of Canton Junior College and twice at the hands of Knox. The close decision with Knox evidenced the drive and spirit of the Monmouth boys; it provided fans with something to cheer about. They ended the season on a note of success, tromping the cagers from MacMurray College. Next year the Wee Scots will provide the Varsity with some excellent basketball material.

Wee Scots	84	Monmouth All-Stars	39
Wee Scots	80	Black Hawk	47
Wee Scots	69	Canton	82
Wee Scots	71	Knox	72
Wee Scots	52	Knox	61
Wee Scots	58	MacMurray	39



Row 1: Glenn Anderson, Dave Stamps, Jim Ulrich, Steve Sullivan, Pat O'Kiersey, Harold Wertich. Row 2: Manager Bruce Montgomery, Rick Hoy, Dick Rodgers, Pete Bassler, Dave Tolley, Dave Lindgren. Row 3: Coach Woll, Dick Yahnke, Dennis Elliott, Rich Andrews, Dave Whiteman, Mike Smith, Bob McLaren, John Stergulz.