

BIO: SSG George L. Gentry

- I joined the Army at age 18, in 1961, to learn how to fix heavy construction equipment. I was trained to be a diesel mechanics and sent to Korea in 1962 -- quickly disliked grease and hard work. Requested Motion Picture and got it.
- I began mo pic training knowing "zero" about photography and graduated first in my class -- thanks to Ft. Monmouth's excellent training.
- 1964, I'm a cinematographer at Ft. Huachuca, AZ. shooting training films. I'm married and have a son.
- 1965, I volunteer for DASPO, stationed in Hawaii and make first TDY to VN.
- Vietnam, 1966, a lot of walking and little shooting. My camera: a 35mm, Eyemo -- spring driven, 90 seconds on a 100 ft. roll, one 35mm lens, nothing automatic.
- My second three- month tour to VN -- in the field with an Arri16-BL: 400 ft. mags and reflex focusing -- spent a month following the Saigon Bomb Squad.
- 1967, somehow the Army decided that I needed to help the newly organized 221<sup>st</sup> Photo Co pour cement for their new facility in Long Binh. I managed get in a shot or two during Tet Offensive of 68.
- 1968 -69, back in DASPO, at Ft. Bragg: shot Hurricane Camille and a few other assignments before bailing-out of the Army. I was hired at WAGA TV5, Atlanta the same day I exited the Army.
- 1970, move to Atlanta with family -- now wife and two sons.
- The DASPO experience led me to a career in TV news, documentaries and entertainment specials. I won a Peabody, more than a dozen local Emmys, NY Film Festival and a pile of other national and international awards. Most of all, I had one hell of a good time.
- 1980, brings a successful career and failed marriage
- During more than 20 years at TV 5 I evolved into a documentary producer/videographer, specializing in environmental subjects. By 1990, and was ready for something new -- focusing entirely on conservation of wildlife.
- I took a job with the US Fish & Wildlife Service and established a TV production facility for the National Conservation Training Center. My crew and I produced videos on conservation of wildlife and natural resources. .
- Remarried, a woman that shares my love of wildlife—she's a Wildlife Ranger. . My sons graduated from college -- both became accountants and are doing great.
- 2002, I took advantage of my 8 years of Army time and 12 years of US Fish and Wildlife Service to retire at age 60 -- following my, still working, 40 year old wife, to the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge where she is a Ranger.
- In retirement, I volunteer as a wildlife photographer for the Wildlife Refuges around he country, travel as much as possible and spend a lot of times in the boonies. When home, I feed the chickens, cook dinner, wash dishes and occasionally kick the gators off the front porch.