

The author is a combat veteran of the First Air Cavalry Division, 1st Airborne Brigade, Vietnam 1965-66 serving with both Company A as a rifleman and D Company as a scout in the battalion reconnaissance platoon of the 8th cavalry where Duke was awarded the Combat Infantryman's badge and the Purple Heart.

After service in Vietnam, Duke was stationed with the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, N.C. until he was honorably discharged in 1967.

Upon completion of his military obligation, Duke resumed his musical career, which had been interrupted by the draft in 1965. Duke spent a number of years on the road with various bands and acts, traveling from coast to coast culminating in a stint in New York, City on "Broadway" in the pit orchestra of the musical *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers*, starring Debbie Boone.

A graduate of *The University of Wisconsin*, the author has been married 36 years to his wife Mitsuko, and they have three children and two grandsons.

Duke has been employed by the US Postal Service as a letter carrier for the past 25 years and resides in Las Vegas, Nevada where he still plays music on a part-time basis.