



SIR -- IT'S WHO WE ARE:

SOCIAL ACTIVITES FOR MEN

BAKERSFIELD BRANCH 163

JUNE 2024-- NEWS/ NOTES



MAY 2024 SIR LUNCHEON

WE HAD ANOTHER GREAT GATHERING FOR THE MAY LUNCHEON WITH JUST A FEW SHORT OF OUR GUARANTEE.

AND ONE THING FOR SURE, HODEL'S NEVER FALLS SHORT OF PROVIDING GREAT SERVICE SUPPORT AND QUALITY FOOD. WE WILL NEVER GO HUNGRY IF YOU ARE IN THIS LINE!



SIR RICHARD WEIGELT

- PRESENTED THE CASE FOR MEMBERS TO SIGN UP FOR THE NEXT LITTLE SIR POSITION SO WE CAN KEEP THE ROTATION THRU THE CHAIRS EASY.
- THE TASKS ARE EASY AND ACTUALLY QUITE ENJOYABLE.
- PLEASE VOLUNTEER AS SOON AS YOU CAN.



SPEAKER: GEORGE CULVER



GEORGE CULVER OF BASEBALL FAME GAVE A VERY NICE SPEECH ABOUT HIS LIFE JOURNEY. HE WAS A MULTI-SPORT ATHLETE AT NORTH HIGH. HE TURNED DOWN AN OFFER TO PLAY WITH THE PHILLIES BUT WENT TO BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE INSTEAD. GEORGE MADE HIS DEBUT IN 1966 WITH THE CLEVELAND INDIANS. HE WAS TRADED TO THE REDS AND IN 1968 GEORGE PITCHED A 'NO HITTER' OVER THE PHILLIES. THIS WAS A NIGHT HE DIDN'T FEEL WELL, IT WAS THE SECOND GAME OF A DOUBLE-HEADER, AND HE WAS GIVEN LITTLE WARM-UP BEFORE GOING TO THE MOUND.

HE FACED MOST OF THE 50 'HALL OF FAMERS' BUT THE TOUGHEST BATTER HE FACED WAS CARL YASTRZEMSKI WITH THE BOSTON RED SOX. GEORGE SAID IT DIDN'T MATTER WHAT HE THREW AT CARL HE WOULD HIT IT. ALL HE TRIED TO DO WAS KEEP HIM FROM HITTING A HOMER!

GEORGE EARNED HIS FAMOUS NICKNAME “EARL OF OILDALE”, BY VINCE SCULLY. BUT HIS BIGGEST THRILL WAS HAVING HIS NAME ON A PRO-TEAM LOCKER FOR OVER 9 YEARS. SINCE RETIRING GEORGE HAS MANAGED AND COACHED FOR 30+ YEARS. HE HAS BEEN INDUCTED IN THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE HALL OF FAME, THE BOB ELIAS KERN COUNTY HOF, AND THE BC ALUMNI HOF. BUT HIS GREATEST DESIRE IS TO SEE MORE GUYS GIVING SOMETHING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY AS HE HAS TRIED TO DO.

BAKERSFIELD HAS HAD MORE THAN TEN FAMOUS ATHLETES OVER THE YEARS AND IT IS ALWAYS A GREAT PLEASURE WHEN ONE OF THEM DOES GIVE SOMETHING BACK TO OUR COMMUNITY.

THANKS, GEORGE CULVER.

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BASEBALL PITCHERS

- THEY STRESS THEIR BODIES TO THE LIMIT
 - THEY PITCH TO A BATTER’S WEAKNESS
 - THEY USUALLY THROW 100 PITCHES
 - SOME HAVE BEEN KNOWN TO THROW 120+ IN A LONG GAME.
 - THE GAME MAY APPEAR SLOW BUT THE PITCHER IS ALWAYS WORKING.
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PLAN AHEAD



• TWO MOST IMPORTANT DATES IN JUNE 2024

1. **JUNE 13.** LUNCH OUT at WIKI's
2. **JUNE 20. SIR Luncheon at Hodel's.** Speaker will be Gary Corbell and computer security.
3. **MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW LEST YOU FORGET**

BIG SIR JIM SHAPAZIAN



HISTORY OF FLAG DAY

SIR members, this year we celebrate Flag Day on June 14, 2024. It is celebrated every June 14th since 1916 due to a proclamation by President Woodrow Wilson making it the first national flag day.

The first commemoration of our flag was started in 1777 when the United States approved the design for the first national flag. This symbol of freedom is celebrated by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and sometimes by singing the Star Spangled Banner.

The colors chosen for the flag do have significance:

Thirteen red and white stripes represent the 13 original colonies. The 50 white stars represent the 50 states, the last one being Hawaii..

White – Purity and innocence

Red – Hardiness and valor

Blue – Vigilance, perseverance and justice

The first date the flag was observed nationally was on June 14, 1877 at the 100th year anniversary of the United States of America.

The name “Old Glory” was given to the flag by a sea captain, William Driver.

So those of you that would display the flag, please do so respectfully and look up the etiquette protocol. I, for one, am proud to display the flag for all to see.

BIG SIR Jim Shapazian

A MOST INTERESTING STORY FROM SIR GARY CORBELL:

The Bakersfield National Cemetery

When the Bakersfield National Cemetery opened on July 1, 2009, it was decided that my wife and I would be interred there, given my status as a Veteran. We also chose not to have any celebrations or funerals. When the wife of a former Big Sir, David Fabrizius, passed away, he told me that Keep It Simple Cremations handled her arrangements. So, when my wife, Connie, passed away on October 22, 2023, at Hoffman Hospice, I directed them to contact Keep It Simple to take care of her.

A day or two later, Keep It Simple called to arrange for my wife’s remains. I requested her ashes be provided to me in an urn to keep at home until my own passing, so we could both

be buried at the National Cemetery together. The total fee charged by Keep It Simple was \$1,700.

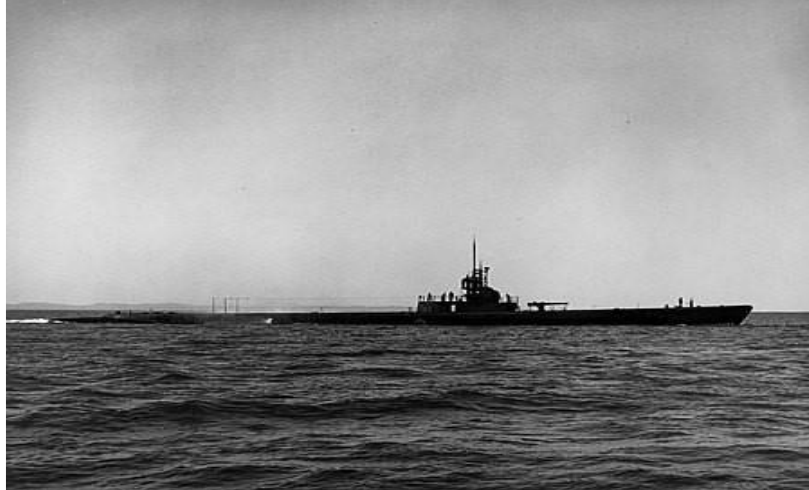
When I shared my plans with my good friend and former SIR member, Dean Hatfield, he informed me that if the non-Veteran spouse of a Veteran passes away first, they can be interred at the Cemetery before the Veteran. I immediately called Keep It Simple to change my previous instructions. They provided me with detailed guidance: (1) after cremation, my wife's ashes would be returned to me in an urn of my choice, (2) Keep It Simple contacted the Bakersfield National Cemetery Support Committee, and (3) I was to send a copy of my DD214 separation papers to the Committee. Soon after, the Committee called to schedule an appointment for her burial. On the day of the burial, my sons, grandson, and I drove to the National Cemetery with my wife's ashes.

At the Cemetery, I met with a representative who gathered the information for her headstone. He informed me that the front of the headstone would display my wife's information, and when I am interred, a new headstone would feature her information on one side and mine on the other.

Although this process was a sad time in my life, I was truly amazed by the dedication of everyone I encountered. I share this information for Veterans who may not be aware of the unique service provided by the Bakersfield National Cemetery Support Committee concerning the interment of a non-Veteran spouse of a Veteran (661)871-1666).

Sir Gary Corbell

USS SCAMP 'a WW 2 Submarine'



AN ELECTION DAY STORY

MY ELECTION DAY DUTY WAS AT McAULIFFE SCHOOL ON WESTWOLD. I WAS SADDENED BY THE LOW TURNOUT THAT DAY WITH ABOUT 24 BALLOTS CAST AND MAYBE 35 DROP-OFFS. FEW YOUNG PEOPLE CAME IN BUT THE 'PATRIOTS' WHO STILL BELIEVE IN VOTING THE OLD FASHIONED SECURE WAY CAME.

AN OLDER GENTLEMAN, I'M GUESSING 95 CAME IN WITH HIS SON AND AS I ROSE TO GREET HIM, I NOTICED AN EMBLEM ON HIS SHIRT, THAT OF A SUBMARINE: USS SCAMP. I ASKED HIM ABOUT IT AND HIS PATRIOTIC PRIDE CAME FULL FRONT!

HE SERVED ON THIS SUB AND SAID IT WAS THE FASTEST IN THE NAVY AND COULD OUTFIT ANY SUB WORLDWIDE. HE SAID IT WAS DESIGNED FOR 50 KNOTS ALTHOUGH MY LATER RESEARCH SHOWED IT TO RUN 21 KNOTS ON SURFACE AND 10 UNDERWATER UNLESS IT WAS A SPECIAL DESIGN NOT MADE PUBLIC. WHAT MATTERED MOST WAS HIS ENTHUSIASM FOR THEIR SUCCESS IN THE PACIFIC THEATER FOR WHICH HE WAS WRITING A BOOK. I WILL BE A BUYER FOR SURE!

HIS PATRIOTIC PRIDE CONVICTED ME THAT DAY AND NOT KNOWING MUCH ABOUT SUBMARINES I DID RESEARCH FURTHER TO FIND THAT COMMON THREAD ABOUT AMERICAN MIGHT THAT HELPED US DOMINATE THE PACIFIC THEATER IN WW 2.

SUBMARINE WARFARE FAQs:

INITIALLY IN 1941 THE US HAD 110 UNITS IN FLEET. IN 1945 WE ENDED THE WAR WITH 230. THE USS SCAMP WAS COMMISSIONED SEPTEMBER 1942 AND PROBABLY SUNK NOVEMBER 1944 DURING WHICH SHE HAD 8 WAR MISSIONS RECEIVING 7 BATTLE STARS. ALL 60 MEN PERISHED!

THE US NAVY ESTIMATES WORLD WIDE THE NUMBER OF SUBS DETROYED ALL CAUSES: USA- 52; GERMAN -781; ITALIAN – 85; JAPANESE – 130. MAYBE OUR SPEEDS WERE SIGNIFICANTLY BETTER OR MAYBE IT WAS OUR SOPHISTICATION IN DESIGN.

BUT IF THESE NUMBERS ARE ACCURATE, WE FAIRED WELL.

I WAS UNABLE TO GET THIS MAN’S NAME OR CONTACT INFORMATION DUE TO ELECTION PROTOCOL AND ALSO TIMING, BUT IF ANYONE BY ANY CHANCE KNOWS OF THIS PERSON PLEASE CONTACT ME. IN FACT, IF ANYONE OF YOU HAS SUBMARINE EXPERIENCE I WOULD VERY MUCH LIKE TO SHARE YOUR STORY.

Sir Larry Sitzman

ANOTHER CALENDAR REMINDER!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



- **POOL BUDDIES**
- **LAST MONDAY IN JUNE**
- **JUNE 24TH AT 11 AM.**
- **BANK SHOT—Olive Dr and Roberts Lane**
- **Come play or stay for lunch. They have pretty good food.**

***THESE GUYS ALWAYS COMPLAIN THAT THERE ARE NOT ENOUGH POCKETS ON THE POOL TABLES! WE USUALLY PLAY THREE GAMES AND HAVE AN ENJOYABLE LUNCH. IN AT ELEVEN; OUT BY ONE. CAN'T MAKE IT MUCH EASIER TO SCHEDULE THAN THIS. DID I TELL YOU WE ALSO REALLY ENJOY IT?**



**Here we have Sir Shapazian, Sir Waln, Sir Prinster, and Sir Smith
Trying to get those little balls into table pockets. Not the same as
When we were younger. Must be the eyes!**

**All of you are invited to join us; plenty of tables available and we get
to kid around with each other which is normally something we don't
do .**



Clean the table Sir Smith so we can have lunch. This is definitely a test of patience and focus. When you have both working at the same time you can quite often score. Of course, friendly coaching helps a lot as well.



MIKE KILLET
Our newest member
Congratulations and
thanks for joining
SIR's



Suggestions to the
Editor

Though I see the world through **my** crystal-clear lenses, it came to my attention that you SIR members may want to read news items that neither our Media news nor my elementary notes purvey.

We, SIR Executive committee, welcome any and all suggestions that you have.

Please let us know your thoughts.

Thanks.

Sir Larry Sitzman





Summer Starts: Thursday, Jun 20 1:50 pm PDT

Summer Ends: Sunday, Sep 22 5:43 am PDT

Region: Washington/United States

The first day of summer (June solstice) is when the sun is in its most northern position directly over the Tropic of Cancer. This is referred to as astronomical summer or the summer solstice.

Astronomical summer starts at different times around the planet because of the different time zones as related to Coordinated Universal Time (UTC, same as Greenwich Mean Time based on the Royal Observatory in Greenwich, London [1]). For countries located west of UTC your summer will start earlier than countries located east of UTC.

Astronomical and Meteorological Summer

Astronomical Summer is determined by the changing positions of the earth relative to the sun giving us the solstices and equinoxes. Seasons are caused by the tilt of the earth on its axis by 23.5 degrees. The tilt of the earth does not change as it goes around the sun so in the Northern Hemisphere the earth is tilted toward the sun in June and away from the sun in December[2]. When the sun is over the equator you have the equinoxes and when the sun is over the Tropic of Cancer in the most northern position you have the summer solstice and conversely when the sun is over the most southern position over the Tropic of Capricorn you have the winter solstice. The summer solstice occurs in the Northern Hemisphere between the dates of June 20 to 22 followed by the [September equinox](#) - September 21 to 23 and then the [Winter solstice](#) - December 20 to 23 and finally the [March equinox](#) - March 19 to 21. The United States, most of North America, Europe and many countries in the Northern Hemisphere use astronomical summer to determine when summer season officially starts and ends.

Meteorological Summer is determined by the annual temperature cycles and the Gregorian calendar. Meteorological summer starts June 1st in the Northern Hemisphere and lasts 3 months (June, July, and August) with Autumn Season (September, October, and November) and Winter Season (December, January, and February) and finally Spring Season (March, April, and May). Australia and New Zealand in the Southern Hemisphere use meteorological summer thus the months of December, January, and February to determine their summer season.

Many countries around the world depending on their latitude will use different methods to determine the start of summer. Some of these methods are dependent on the longest day measured, cultural festivals, temperatures and traditional calendar systems. More of these [timing methods](#) to determine summer can be found on Wikipedia.org.



WHAT DIRECTION ARE WE NOW?

MOST PEOPLE JUST DON'T KNOW



SEXTANT WILL GUIDES TRAVELERS



DO YOU EVER FEEL LIKE YOU'RE WANDERING ALL OVER THE MAP TO GET SOMEWHERE? HERE ARE SOME EXAMPLES THAT WILL ADD TO YOUR DILEMNA.

1. Most Canadians live South of Seattle!
2. Reno, Nevada is farther west than Los Angeles.
3. New York City is farther west than Santiago, Chile.
4. The Panama Canal's Atlantic entrance is farther West than its Pacific entrance.
5. West Virginia is not exactly west of Virginia; the only direction in which it extends beyond Virginia as a whole, is North!
6. SO THERE! If anyone asks you one of these questions just say West, you'll probably be correct most of the time.

‘D’ – DAY MEMORIAL COMING UP 6 JUNE



D-Day was the name given to the June 6, 1944, invasion of the beaches at Normandy in northern France by troops from the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom and other countries during World War II. France at the time was occupied by the armies of Nazi Germany, and the amphibious assault—code-named Operation Overlord—landed some 156,000 Allied soldiers on the beaches of Normandy by the end of the day.

Despite their success, some 4,000 Allied troops were killed by German soldiers defending the beaches. At the time, the D-Day invasion was the largest naval, air and land operation in history, and within a few days about 326,000 troops, more than 50,000 vehicles and some 100,000 tons of equipment had landed. By

August 1944, all of northern France had been liberated, and in spring of 1945 the Allies had defeated the Germans. Historians often refer to D-Day as the beginning of the end of World War II.

I KNOW WE CAN GET A BIT ANNOYED BY ALL THE OLD WAR MOVIES BUT THE BATTLE BETWEEN GOOD AND EVIL STILL RAGES.

MAY WE NEVER FORGET AND MAY OUR CHILDREN FIND TIME TO PONDER THE COST OF FREEDOM!!

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Rock Your Portfolio With the Rule of 72

Understanding compound interest

By: Matt Mondoux, CFA, CFP, CMT

November 11, 2021

Mathematical Concept Highlights Importance of Compound Interest. Thought you might want to review this again.

Understanding compound interest — or more simply — compounding, is at the heart of financial basics. Ever wonder how long it will take your 401(k) to double given a specific rate of return? Or what rate of return you would need to achieve for your

investment to double in five years?

Compounding can be no better or basically illustrated than the “Rule of 72.” The Rule of 72 is a handy tool that can be used to approximate the amount of time it will take for something, e.g., money, to double. Practically speaking, this concept is well-suited for understanding investments, for example:

- Your 401(k) earning 6% per year will take 12 years to double: 72 divided by 6 equals 12**
- An investment of \$1,000 will double to \$2,000 in eight years if it grows at 9% per year: 72 divided by 8 = 9%**
- A savings account earning 0.5% will double in 144 years! 72 divided by 0.5 = 144 years (Yikes!)**

This concept works beyond investments:

- If the United States gross domestic product can grow at 4%, then the economy will double in 18 years: 72 divided by 4 = 18**
- But it will take the U.S. economy 36 years to double if it grows at 2%: 72 divided by 2 = 36**

Interest Rates and Compounding

The difference even a small change in interest rates can have on how quickly whatever you’re measuring will double is key to understanding compounding. In the example above, the difference between 2% and 4% translates to an 18-year difference in how long it takes for an economy to double. It starts to make sense that politicians spend so much time taking about how the economy is growing.

To drive home the concept further, an economy growing at 4% will have doubled twice in the same time period it took the economy growing at 2% to double. You can get creative in how you apply

this principle: the growth of population or inflation, the spread of a virus or a video, etc.

- **College tuition growing at 8% means the cost will double in nine years. At that rate, by the time a child born today is ready to attend college, tuition will have increased fourfold!**
- **A company's bottom line that grows at 10% will see earnings double in 7.2 years; when a company's earnings increase at 5%, its profit takes 14.4 years to double.**

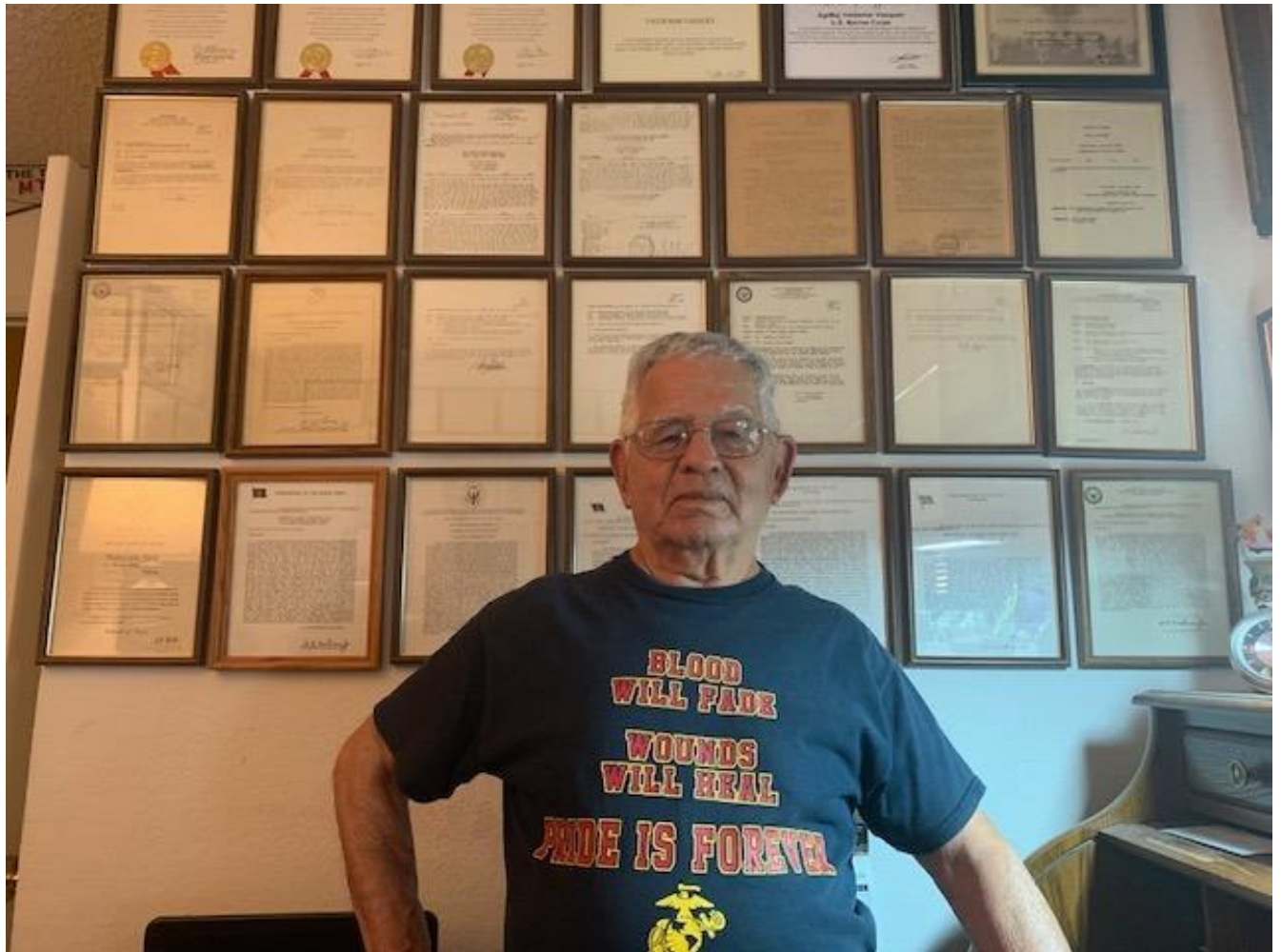
The second example makes it clear why one would be willing to pay more on a price-earnings basis for the faster-growing companies. This concept also illustrates why technology companies with strong balance sheets and high earnings-growth rates trade at higher profit multiples than other more steady, slower-growth utility businesses.

You Don't Have to Be an Einstein to Get This

Hopefully this concept highlights the importance of compounding. Compounding favors those who start early: Saving in your 20s gives those monies time to double potentially three or four times before retirement. Said another way, \$1,000 invested at age 20, earning 7.2%, increases to \$2,000 by age 30. Maybe this doesn't seem all that special. But follow that investment a few decades further, assuming the same rate of return, that \$2,000 increases to \$4,000 by 40, \$8,000 by 50 and \$16,000 by 60.

There is a reason Albert Einstein is credited with saying: "Compound interest is the eighth wonder of the world. He who understands it, earns it; he who doesn't, pays it."

Who wants to argue with that?



SIR VAL VASQUEZ – MARINE FOREVER

It is always my great honor to greet and talk with those who went before us into harms way, seeking to defend our country and defeat every enemy who threatens freedom in the world. Val is one of those men who will engage to defend the USA at a moment's notice. You will know him by the caps he wears: US MARINE, KOREA-VIETNAM, VETERAN. Val wears them proudly everywhere he goes, lest we forget. What you don't know about him are the

number of tours he has made, the many life threatening dangers he has endured, and the number of citations and commendations he has received.

Val was born March 7, 1933 during the great depression. He had one sister and three brothers. Lots of mouths to feed and little money and food to sustain a family, so Val's Dad hit the road as a traveling sheep shearer. He traveled Colorado, Wyoming, New Mexico, and Texas. When pay-day came he would hop a bus or train and bring his check home to Mama. They ate rice, beans, chicken or bologna or canned salmon(yuck if you remember)! And thanks to Dad they never went hungry. And by the way, Val's Dad seldom slept under a roof nor in a bed, but on the dirt out in the open!

Val's mom moved them to San Antonio, Texas so the kids could get a quality education. Val joined the Marine Reserves during school which allowed him to get a job at the local Army Golf course so he could pay his way through school and not be a burden on the family.

In 1953 we find Val enlisting in the Marines Boot Camp in San Diego, and he says with some anguish, "that was my worst nightmare ever"! But he made it as did 74 other applicants and he was on his way to Camp Pendleton Combat training with the 3rd Marine Division. This was the period of the build up in Korea

as the Chinese leaders would not sign a Cease-fire agreement so there would be no truce, no peace.

Val was trained at the 81MM Mortar Squad as a Section Leader with a team of seven: 1st and 2nd Gunner; baseplate carrier; tube carrier; and 4 ammo carriers. He was sent to Japan and then to Okinawa where he was promoted to Corporal and moved from 1st gunner to Forward Observer.

Then Val was shipped back to Camp Pendleton into "Test Unit #1" where they were trained how to maneuver, cover, protect themselves from radiation, and maintain offensive leadership. Some time ago I wrote about the Atomic Test in Nevada but I did not know some of these details.

Val and his team were placed about 5 miles from the tower and told to face away from the tower, kneel, cover your face with your hands, close your eyes, and wait for the blast to occur. As he knelt, he suddenly saw a bright light and he saw the skeleton bones of his hands, still with his eyes closed. Then as quickly as it came the light was gone. The guys turned around toward the tower and then they got hit by the blast knocking them off their feet.

As they collected them-selves they soon were loaded into a helicopter where they flew directly around the mushroom cloud that had formed. Val remembers it was like our Tule-fog, so dense you

could hardly see daylight! Then they landed by the explosion zone, got out and walked to where the ground was still smoking, not by their own accord but because they were told to do it! Val says most who experienced the test have died but he still lives without any side-effects.

Now that would have caused me to find another form of employment, but not Val; he re-enlisted! Back to Okinawa for two years and he returned to Camp Pendleton September 1958. He met his future wife, Hope, and escorted her to the Marine Camp Ball; I must say they were a handsome couple that night. They were married in February 1959.

Val then trained in Guerilla Warfare in-field where he contracted pneumonia which led to Pluracy. The doctors wanted to do surgery but Val would have none of this. The doctors placed him on a Temporary Five Year Disability. That would have caused most of us to drop out and find a non-military job! But not Val. He amazingly was healed and re-qualified for active duty 1962.

Now this gets a bit dizzy: Val went to Okinawa again, then back to the States where he became a recruiter in San Antonio for three years. Then when retirement was close, Val went to Dah Nang Base in Vietnam. He would not be tied to a desk as he was a trained soldier with a solid desire to be in-field.

Maybe you are or you know of others like Val who love the Challenge, seek the action, defend the cause; and you know how loyal to country they can be.

There are so many details about his job it is hard for me to imagine nor to enumerate so I'll just say this: Val was a leader of men, part of a Reactionary Team who did assessments of battle needs, a liaison with local villages to assist and protect them from the Vietcong. He did his job very effectively, so much so the Vietcong had a Bounty on his head \$750, dead or alive of course. Not that this was un-common but the Marine commanders assigned a body guard who protected him day and night. That is quite a recognition; but no diploma! I assume you know that this was not a war for us but one that was fought between North and South Vietnam. The USA was a support force(2,709,918 personnel) to help the South defeat Evil from China. The battle still rages!

Val won't speak of the real ordeals he encountered but suffice it to say he has a room filled with commendations, five citations from South Vietnam Generals, Cold War Certificate, Support of the Korean Conflict, a Bronze Star, and a Purple Heart! When I survey these, I am humbled to know Val, understand some of what he went through, and to call him friend.

He returned to the states and after a 6 month trip to Lebanon, Val retired after 31 years of true service to our country. Oh, but he is not done. He and Hope came to Bakersfield and Val became the Military Instructor of the ROTC Marine Program at North High School! He loves to serve, he loves to train men and women to think and to react, and he will tell you he loves his country. Val will also tell you, "I am the luckiest man to still be alive!"

He said he would go if called today; "I Love the Marines"!

He never was afraid.

Biggest sorrow was the loss of 37 men under his command.

Greatest value: "My family, my children, and I am close to all of them".

"I love my country and that is why I served"

Just a note to remember the wives and families of our Military members. They are the true unsung heroes who carry-on the battle on the home front and, that as you can imagine, is not easy. They carry a burden as well, just not a backpack.

Sir Larry Sitzman



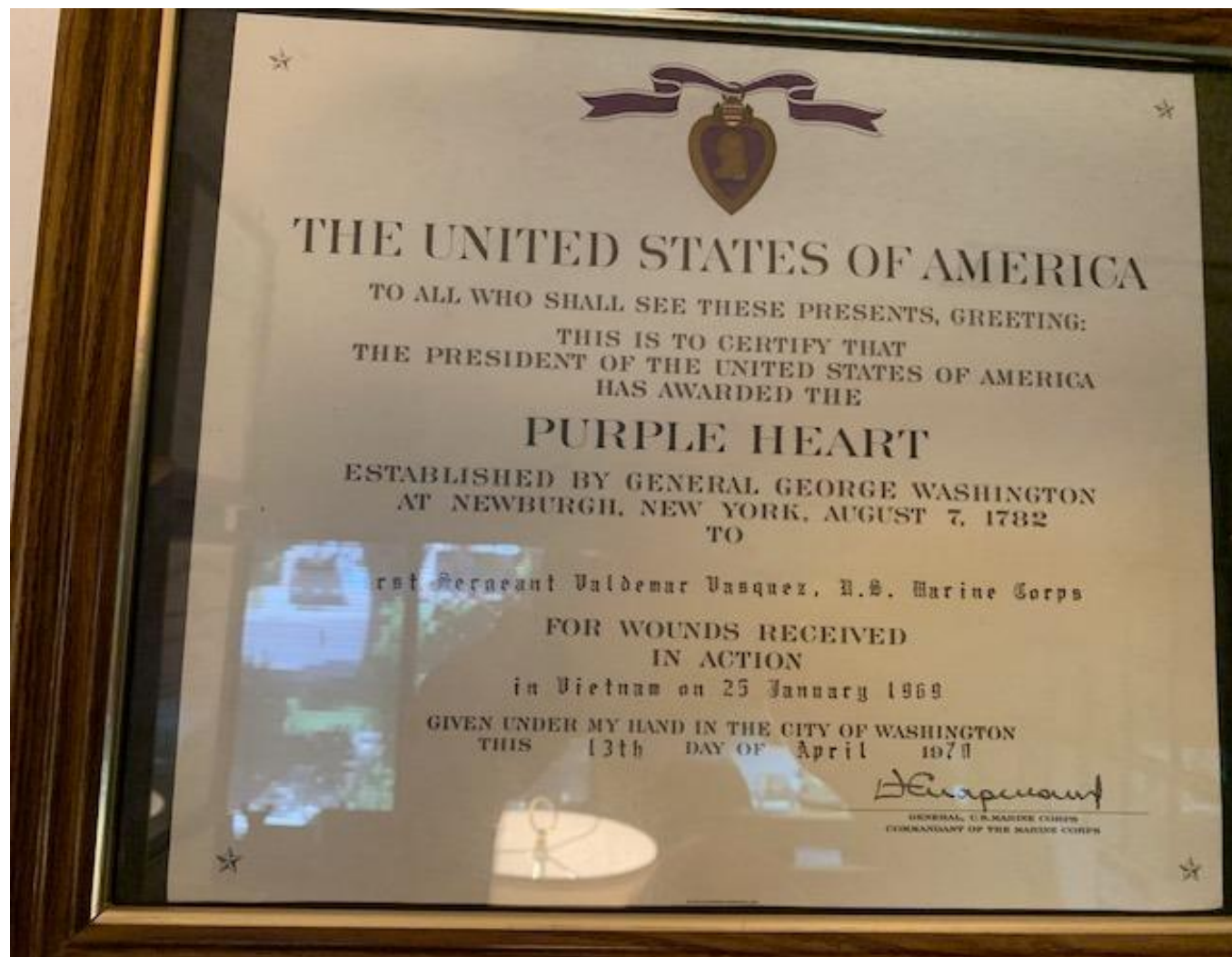
BRONZE STAR MEDAL FOR MERITORIOUS COMBAT SERVICE

NOVEMBER 1968 TO NOVEMBER 1969

Although both the Navy and the Marine Corps are regarded as separate branches of the military, [the Marine Corps is technically a part of the U.S. Navy](#), ever since Congress placed the Marines under the Navy [in 1834](#). That means that [while the commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps](#) reports to the secretary of the Navy, the Navy is its own entity, so the secretary of the Navy reports directly up the chain to the secretary of defense.



WALL OF HONOR



PURPLE HEART AWARDED JANUARY 1969 – REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM



BRONZE STAR RECIPIENT

**Thanks for laying it all on the line for us Val and
Thank You for Your Service.**