



CORPORAL JOHN A TAYLOR
U. S. Marine Corps
Vietnam War

Cpl. John A. Taylor, son of the late John and Clara Taylor, joined the Marine Corps in 1967 and like so many other young men of the time, was promptly sent to Vietnam from San Diego, California.

As a Radio Operator, Taylor was stationed and fought mainly in Keson and The Kwafet Valley. He also crossed the border into Laos during many of their efforts. During one of these border infiltrations, his battalion was trapped in by heavy fog and they weren't able to get their ammunition and supplies in and could not get their fallen comrades remains out and back to base. They lived on brown rice during that siege and waited it out as they weren't leaving their fallen men behind.

When John returned to Camp Lejune, he did not come home alone – he brought recurring bouts with Malaria, severe hearing loss, and Agent Orange and it's related illnesses. Cpl. Taylor says he is ".....no hero. One of his officers, Sgt Chavaria, always told him and many of the other troops 'As good as you thought you had done – you could do better'. " Many others feel much differently and were proud to serve with Cpl Taylor in Vietnam and various other stations.

Taylor left the service in 1971 and married his wife, Darlene. They reside in Hermitage, PA. Together they raised a son, Matthew, who served 4 years with the U.S. Air Force as a doctor. Their family is completed with Matthew's wife Katie and their granddaughter, Brooklyn Belle.

Cpl. Taylor came home and attended Slippery Rock University where he graduated Magna Cum Laude. He worked for the U.S. Postal Service for 31 years before retiring and spending his time enjoying his family in Las Vegas, Nevada.