

# From the Editor | June 2026



How Miller  
Sentinel Editor

We open this *Sentinel* with our cover shot of an amazingly ice-cool and selfless Vietnamese H34 King Bee pilot, **CPT An**, who would hover under fire to extract his SOG teams.

**John “Tilt” Stryker Meyer**, who co-authored with John E. Peters *On The Ground: The Secret War in Vietnam*, was a 1-0 (recon team leader), working for the Studies and Observation Group (SOG), whose job was to lead teams across the fence into Laos, Cambodia, and North Vietnam. In our first story, an excerpt from the book, CPT An,

flying a skeleton crew by choice, flew his King Bee H34 helicopter into exfiltrate RT Lion.

Tilt shares with us a portion of the first chapter from *On the Ground*, about a newly recruited and trained team of three Green Berets and seven Bru Montagnards called Recon Team (RT) Lion. This was their first mission, and it was to the target area known as Oscar 8 in Laos, northwest of the A Chau Valley, the most dangerous place that SOG covered, with no up-to-date intel and sure to be occupied by a really scary number of NVA troops.

In this great book can be found other SOG stories, including Chapters 7-9 about the costliest day in SF history, 23 August 1968. And it’s a good companion to his *Across the Fence*, another book about SOG and the hair-raising missions they executed.

We continue to highlight SOG with a piece about another SOG 1-0, who was a legend at the time he was serving, holding a record of 93 missions. Hanoi Hannah would occasionally make reference to him on her propaganda and music radio programs, even though none of the SOG troops could talk about the unit for 20 years.

In *“A Man in His Element—MSG Jerry Michael Tate Shriver,”* Chapter 78 member, author, and frequent contributor to the *Sentinel*, **Greg Walker** shares with us an interview he had with SOG veteran **COL (ret.) Bob Killebrew** discussing SOG and Jerry.

On their Hatchet Force, Bob was the Company XO and also the 1st Platoon Leader, with Jerry as his Platoon Sergeant.

Jerry knew his final mission was a suicide mission, asking a “Yard” that was not assigned to take care of his dog, Klaus.

Wrapping up the issue is “Out and About,” highlighting Chapter 78’s support of local ROTC programs through end-of-year award presentations recognizing outstanding graduates. Chapter leaders Gary Macnamara, James McLanahan, and Jim Cragg presented Awards of Excellence at UCLA and Cal State Fullerton, while Gary also represented the 82nd Airborne Division Association to present awards at the Santiago High School JROTC award ceremony in Garden Grove.

We thank our contributors for helping preserve these important stories. We hope you enjoy this issue of the *Sentinel* and encourage you to share it with others who value the legacy of Special Forces. ❖

How Miller, *Sentinel* Editor

## SFA Chapter 88 Concludes Operation “Quiet Professionals” With Monument Dedication

After more than a year of planning and coordination, [Chapter 88 successfully dedicated and donated a new Special Forces memorial monument](#) to the Jacksonville National Cemetery on April 11, 2026.

The ceremony drew about 125 attendees to witness the unveiling of the 3-foot-high gray granite monument placed next to five other monuments on the Memorial Walk. The ceremony featured support from the U.S. Army 3rd Infantry Division Band from Fort Stewart, Georgia, who performed a medley of military music for arriving guests; an Honor Guard of soldiers from the 3rd Battalion, 20th Special Forces Group (Airborne) at Camp Blanding Joint Training Center, who posted the colors; and remarks by Florida Lieutenant Governor and retired Special Forces veteran Jay Collins, who praised the chapter’s efforts to honor and remember Special Forces soldiers and veterans.

Thank you to all *Sentinel* readers who donated in support of this project.

At left, Lt. Gov. Jay Collins congratulates Chapter 88 President David Ware for the chapter’s efforts to honor and remember the Special Forces soldiers and veterans who served with SF units. (Photo by Mark Geil with [Mark Geil Photography](#) of Orange Park, FL)

