



**SPECIAL FORCES ASSOCIATION
INDIAN NATIONS CHAPTER 32-50
P.O. Box 30031, Edmond OK 73003**

MINUTES 12 FEBRUARY 2022

Special Forces Association Chapter 32-50 met at the Oklahoma County Sheriff's Headquarters (former Krause USAR Ctr & HQ for Co. A, 2d Bn, 12th SFGA), 2101 NE 36th Street, NE 36th St & Martin Luther King Ave, Oklahoma City, OK, on Sat., 12 Feb 2022, at 1200 hours.

Officers Present

President: Jack Farr

Vice President: Ray Williams

Secretary: Charles Watts

Treasurer/Chaplain: Dick Goodman

Assistant Secretary: Pat Carr

Officers Absent

Assistant Treasurer: Ron Siegman

Quartermaster: Dave "Sarge" Cronic

Chapter President Jack Farr called the meeting to order, at 1200 hours.

Chaplain Dick Goodman led the Special Forces Prayer.

Chapter Vice-President Ray Williams led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Member Rafael Elias played the Ballad of the Green Beret.

Guests

MAJ (Ret) Joe Todd attended on behalf of the Oklahoma Historical Society to make Vietnam veterans aware of the Historical Society's program to record interviews with Oklahoma Vietnam vets. Many of our members signed up for interviews.

Although they are members, not "guests", Roger "Rock" Taylor, George Tabor and Pat Carr were here from Tulsa. It was also a great pleasure to see Wilson Hunt, former president of Chapter 50 and a member we have missed. Wilson was brought to the meeting by J.O. Dickey.

Ladies Auxiliary Report

Shirley Williams, the amazing president of the Ladies Auxiliary, reminded us that the ladies are celebrating their tenth year as an integral part of Chapter 32-50. Over those years, they have accomplished acts of kindness too numerous to



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mention, made many donations to Special Forces causes, and generally brought great honor to our chapter. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

Also, in true Shirley Williams fashion, instead of taking any personal credit for her leadership and accomplishments, Shirley presented an award to Reta Hall for Reta's ten years of service as Treasurer. Recognition was well deserved by both ladies! The ladies capped off the meeting by, once again, treating the men to lunch.

Treasurer's Report

Dick Goodman gave the Treasurer's report.

Medals Report

Jerry Cooper gave the medals report. Jerry has packaged and shipped 16 boxes of 37 JROTC Medals for orders he received since the meeting. We have sold 224 medals since January 1, 2022, creating a net profit of \$1,198.38 after shipping, packaging, and printer expenses. We have 2,199 medals on hand. Jerry also announced that SFA National will publish Chapter 32-50's medals ad in the Drop.

US Army Cadet Command, Ft. Knox, KY, has now officially recognized the SF ROTC medal for wear by JROTC cadets. Chapter member, LTC Marcus Franzen, currently attending the Army War College, personally visited Cadet Command, which resulted in the approval. Now all we need is a copy of the order. Thank you, Marcus!

Doug Warden commented on scheduling of JROTC awards for 2022.

Oklahoma Veterans' Council Report

Rick Caccini reported on House Bill 3177 to recognize WW II Rangers.

Quartermaster Report

None given. Sarge Cronin was absent due to his wife Monica's critical illness.

Chaplain's Report

Chaplain Dick Goodman preached LTC Rusty Tate's funeral, assisted by President Jack Farr.

Old Business

On 28 Feb 2022, Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame inductee, Ellis Edwards, was again honored when he was selected as "Veteran of The Week" by the Oklahoma



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House Of Representatives. In a ceremony attended by Edwards' family and SFA members, McEdward Law, Jerry Cooper and Charles Watts, Butch Graham (on behalf of Edwards) led the House in the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a standing ovation for Edwards from the entire House.

New Business

Member, Pat Carr, has assumed duties as our new Assistant Secretary. Although it will be difficult to fill Robert Kelson's shoes, who has served as Secretary and Assistant Secretary for the past 12 years, we are thrilled to have Pat on board! President Farr announced that Jerry Cooper is collecting military photographs from chapter members, which he will post on the chapter website. This is a way to preserve your military heritage for posterity, and all members and associate members are encouraged to participate in collecting photographs and memorabilia..

Member J.O. Dickey, donated a large screen TV to the Norman Veterans' Center on behalf of SFA Chapter 32-50. The TV was placed in the Veterans' Center dayroom, near Wilson Hunt' room, in time for this year's Super Bowl. Wilson's wife Jan stated, "You guys are amazing friends." The Center's Director of Activities noted that the donation brought the vets out of their rooms to socialize with one another. Several members, including Burt McNeil, Ken Morrison and _____ McLaughlin, have also contributed to the purchase. Anyone desiring to contribute can send a check to: J. O. Dickey, 129 S. Pickard Ave, Norman OK 73069.

Rock Taylor announced that all Tulsa area members were invited to watch the Super Bowl, at Keith Laub's home.

Death of Rusty Tate

Services for LTC Rusty Tate, 1946–2022, were held 23 Feb 2022, at Matthews Funeral Home, with internment on 28 Feb 2022, at the Fort Sill National Cemetery.





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Russell Owen Tate (Rusty) was born July 24, 1946, in Amarillo, Texas, to Dottie Lee (Hamilton) Tate and George Russell Tate. Rusty left his worldly life 16 Feb 2022, at 1429 hours. He is pre-deceased by his parents and brother Charles (Chuck) Tate. He is survived by his wife of 36 1/2 years Betty Lou (Henderson) Tate; his 3 children; George Russell Tate, Kelly Lee Tate, and Ashley Nichole Tate, and Step-Son John Damon Foster. He is also survived by 3 grandchildren; Rachel Eilerts, Anthony Tate and Emma Foster; 2 sisters, Vicki (Tate) Miller and Susan Tate, and many nieces, nephews and extended family.

Rusty graduated from Putnam City High School in 1964, where he was an accomplished football player. He went to NEO in Miami, OK., on a football scholarship, where he played 1 year, then transferred to Central State University (now UCO) to continue playing football & finish his education.

In 1968, Rusty left Central State with 1 semester left to join the USMC. Of course, in typical "Rusty fashion", he graduated Boot Camp as the "Honor graduate" and Expert Marksman, went to Sniper School, and was deployed in November of 1968 to Viet Nam as a "Scout Sniper". During his service in Viet Nam, he was wounded 3 times, later receiving 3 Purple Hearts, the Silver Star, the Bronze Star with "V", the Navy Commendation Medal with "V", Navy Achievement Medal with "V", and many more commendations.

After returning home, Rusty completed his Bachelor's degree at Central State. He finished his Master's degree the following 2 summers, while attending the Scholl college of Podiatry, in Chicago, where he received a doctorate in podiatric medicine. Rusty published 3 research papers, winning 2 "Stickle" awards.

While completing his podiatry residency in Kansas City, Rusty was approached by one of his patients (who later became a General) about why he did not stay in the military. Rusty said he wanted to be a doctor, but he might have considered staying if he could do something "fun", like jumping out of planes! In short order, Rusty was in the 2d Bn, 12th Special Forces Group, located in Tulsa, OK. He completed Army Airborne School, then Special Forces training, earning his "Flash" & tab. He later attended Scuba School. During Rusty's military career, he completed Pathfinder School, Infantry Officer's Basic and Advanced courses, Command & General Staff College, the Army War College, the National Defense University, Anti-terrorist Instructor's course, and many more. He also achieved Jump Master and Dive Master status.



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Throughout Rusty's military and podiatry careers, he also completed medical school, receiving an M.D. degree at Ross University (in conjunction with OU), in Dominica, British West Indies. He further earned a PhD in human factors engineering, at OU.

When Rusty & Betty married in 1985 (it was a blind date 2 years prior) one of her passions became his as well. He learned to wear "real Cowboy boots & jeans" and to ride horses. He jumped in full force. He loved showing horses....of course competition was the name of the game, and he fit right in. He won many competitions and awards. He also became active as a Reserve Mounted Patrol officer with both the Oklahoma County Sheriff's Office and the Logan County Sheriff's Office. Rusty took great pride in keeping 3 of his & Betty's horses nationally certified Mounted Patrol Horses.

Rusty loved his children dearly. He loved going to soccer games to see Kelly's remarkable skills come to life. He beamed with pride with Ashley's equestrian skills. He was so proud of George's mechanical and building skills that he bragged on his knowledge over and over. He watched Damon play baseball and bragged on him as well. He was also extremely proud of his grand-children. He was tough, but he loved them all dearly.

Rusty will always be remembered as a very colorful, competitive, "out there" kind of guy. Those that knew him really well also knew he often wore his heart on his sleeve, and could be a real "push-over", and was very generous. He was always "all in" when it came to his military career, professional career, and hobbies. Rusty loved his family and friends. He was a true Patriot.

50/50 Raffle

Rock Taylor won \$101.00 in the 50/50 raffle, which he donated back to the chapter. Those who wish to participate in the 50/50 drawing should bring small bills, Five dollars buys six tickets.

Our Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be Saturday, 12 Mar 2022, at the Oklahoma County Sheriff's Headquarters (former Krause USAR Ctr & HQ for Co. A, 2d Bn, 12th SFGA), 2101 NE 36th Street, Oklahoma City. The social hour begins at 1100 hrs, and the business meeting begins at 1200 hrs. The building is just east of Martin Luther King Blvd, which runs north/south. The entrance to parking is on the north side of 36th



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Street. Please remember the building has no bar or refreshments. One may bring one's own.

Regards,

Charles J. Watts
D-2833
Secretary