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# "Hi Mom, I'm O.K." And Other Lies From Vietnam



## Synopsis

As a proud, decorated, disabled veteran, when I wrote my book about my time in Vietnam, "Hi Mom, I'm O.K. And Other Lies From Vietnam," it was not only to meet my obligation to teach others about the events of the war but also about our emotions, how we dealt with life on a daily basis, and to clear misconceptions. The author served with the First Air Cav, which had the misfortune of being Westmoreland's favored unit. The author's unit was hit hard during his tenure; being involved in the Tet offensive, the battles of Hue, & Khe Sahn, among others. He wasn't in the field long before the incident that sent him to An Khe, where he was almost killed. Someone up there must have liked Howard because, despite the fact that he was severely wounded, briefly stopping his heart, & went on to have close escapes from death no less than 3 more times, he came home in one piece, more or less! Of course people who've had loved ones in a war zone worry about them. What may not be so obvious is that many soldiers also worried about those at home. To protect his mom, a worrier, and his dad, who had a heart condition, the author adjusted the truth in his letters home. Now it is time to tell the truth. In that spirit, "Hi Mom, I'm O.K." and Other Lies from Vietnam, was written, containing excerpts of those letters, "the truth", candid commentary, and lots of photos. It is not all serious; part of keeping himself sane during the war was using his sense of humor. By reading the collection of letters, and seeing the photos, my readers are transported back in time to the Vietnam War and begin to see feelings and insight from the war zone. The fresh perspective provides some insight on the war not provided in ordinary texts, military biographies and other books. In honor of all vets and their families, We are excited to provide this opportunity for history buffs, military fans, and fellow vets to see the Vietnam experience from a new angle. Not only is writing such a book an opportunity to share the Vietnam experience from a new angle with future generations of historians, history buffs, military fans and fellow veterans; but it also documents the emotions & feelings of a soldier away from home. The author's hope is that what he has written will resonate with all who are or have been in combat, as well as those who have, or are writing loved ones overseas. This is not only a story of heroes in the usual sense, but also a reminder of and dedicated to the sacrifices made by soldiers and their loved ones at home. To all who have or are serving, thanks for your service. Words like "fantastic" have been used to describe this book.

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