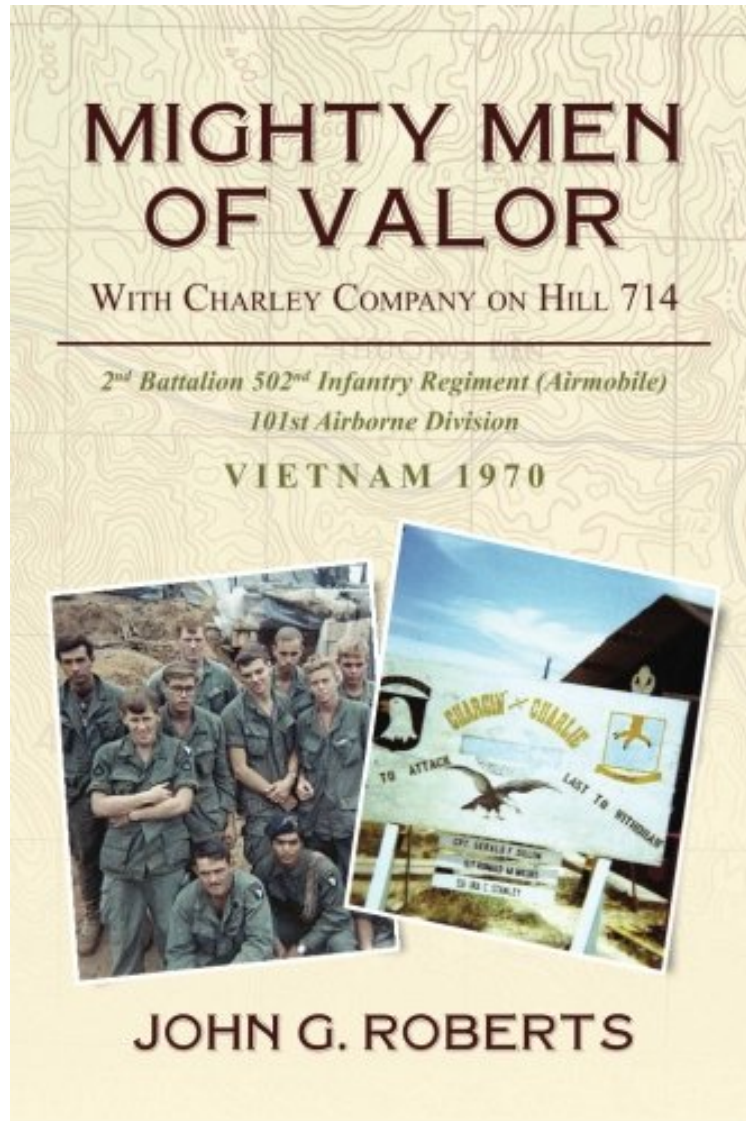


(Download free pdf) Mighty Men of Valor: With Charlie Company on Hill 714-Vietnam, 1970

# Mighty Men of Valor: With Charlie Company on Hill 714-Vietnam, 1970

John G. Roberts

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#1205947 in Books John G Roberts 2013-01-12Format: Large PrintOriginal language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.00 x .61 x 6.00l, .80 #File Name: 1477563938270 pagesMighty Men of Valor | File size: 41.Mb

**John G. Roberts : Mighty Men of Valor: With Charlie Company on Hill 714-Vietnam, 1970** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Mighty Men of Valor: With Charlie Company on Hill 714-Vietnam, 1970:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent description of combat action and life under the canopy with 2/502 infantry during 1970.By CustomerJohn Roberts describes very accurately the life of an o'deuce

infantryman under the canopy in the I corps in 1970. He was a squad leader in C company, and so his first-hand POV is mostly with that company, but he also does a great job touching on the ancillary engagements of other O'deuce companies. It is clear that much thorough research went into this book. I myself served as a medic with Alpha Company 2/502 in 1970 thru most of 1971 and at the time I heard many platoon stories about the Texas Star operation he describes in such detail. Now I know the details. He is a very good writer and I enjoyed his accurate description of the battalion area, REMF attitudes etc, as well as the intense life under the canopy of an O'Deuce trooper. It brought back many memories of my own. He even mentions such details as the really good thanksgiving meal made available to soldiers out in the bush that year. My company was brought onto Bastogne to partake of that meal after a solid month under the canopy that November and it was good to be reminded of such a small detail. After a month in monsoon rains I can tell you that meal and a roof overhead for a night meant a lot. I have read all the books I can find by O'deuce troopers and I like this one the best. I'm glad this account now exists for posterity. My only nit is that Medic Ben Odell Johnson is not listed with the soldiers killed in op Texas Star. Ben died in action with Alpha company on August 21, 1970 should be listed right before Sheldon Silverman. Two other Alpha troopers were medevaced that same day. I was Ben's replacement in Alpha and though I never knew him, I heard much about how he died. Thanks for such a great book.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. An Enjoyable Read  
By Customer  
This book written by John Roberts was a non-fiction memoir. As many books written by Vietnam veterans, this was his personal experience. His war was back in 1970, after the Tet Offensive. Nevertheless, this takes nothing away from being a dangerous time. What is quickly noticeable is the authors good sense of being level headed, and pleasant. Sometimes those that write about their experiences impose an angry and vulgar writing style. Not so with Roberts. As his war unfolds, its easy to follow, enjoyable while still sharing the fear, anxiety and horror he endures. He doesn't describe the fire fights to any depth, rather notes the date, where it occurred, and a brief summary. He's consistent with this throughout the book. Maybe that explains that this book isn't heavy with blood and guts. It maybe fair to predict that the author, John Roberts is a thoughtful and decent man, compassionate and soft spoken. You hardly read him talk about his men and how he supervised them as a sergeant. He hardly writes about the personal relationships of those around him or men he worked. This is best described as a personal book with shallow brush strokes. Finally, I thought his comments towards the end about his wife and how they lived on after the war was excellent. I would have wanted to read more. I liked that he included a segment written by his wife. Heart warming and fulfilling and helps understand what John Roberts experienced.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A must read Vietnam war story  
By Steve  
I had never heard of this battle and a hell of a battle it was. These few infantry soldiers (101 Airborne) beat unbeatable odds. If it were fiction, you wouldn't believe it but it's not, it's a true story of determination and leadership and they pulled off all this with much less support than you would expect. If it could go wrong, it did. These guys made it and it was just these very brave desperate men. The cavalry just didn't come charging in blowing bugles and flashing swords them. This is like Custer's last stand but Custer won (had he been as good a leader as this sergeant). I'm not saying anything else, you just have to read it. In a few months, I'll certainly read it again.

**THE SCREAMING EAGLES OF VIETNAM IN 1970** The Screaming Eagles of the 101st Airborne have been in combat against the elusive Viet Cong and North Vietnamese Army for nearly five years. In his memoir, author John G. Roberts tells the story of the 2nd Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment, the "Widow Makers" of the 101st Divisions' 1st Brigade. Written in the often crude language of the combat infantryman, Roberts describes what it was like to confront the enemy during close combat in the triple-canopied jungles of I Corps, west of the Song Bo River and in the infamous A Shau Valley. As part of Operation Texas Star, the 502nd Infantry (the "O-Deuce") lost 30 men killed and over 200 wounded in a month long battle against the 29th NVA Regiment in April and May, 1970.

**JUNGLE COMBAT SEEN THROUGH THE EYES OF A YOUNG SHAKE-N-BAKE SERGEANT** Roberts relates the shock and grief he and others felt when his 11-man squad lost 3 men killed and five wounded in about an hour of combat. The fights around Hill 714, Hill 882 and the 4-month Battle of Firebase Ripcord received very little attention in the media. The press was focused on the April invasion of Cambodia and the May student shootings at Kent State University in Ohio. Roberts, like many Vietnam combat veterans, carried the symptoms of PTSD with him when he returned home. The author is very open about the 35 year battle he had with PTSD and alcohol. With help from his family and support from medical professionals at Veterans Affairs, he has worked out a truce with the demons of PTSD and now lives a quiet life in Southern California.

**JOIN THE O-DEUCE DURING OPERATION TEXAS STAR** When you read *Mighty Men of Valor: With Charlie Company on Hill 714 - Vietnam, 1970* you have the chance to experience life (and death) as an combat infantryman during the last big American-led battles of the Vietnam War as only someone who was there can describe them.

From the Author *Mighty Men of Valor: With Charley Company on Hill 714 - Vietnam, 1970* is my personal story as well as an anecdotal history of the 2nd Battalion 502nd Infantry Regiment. As part of the 1st Brigade of the famous 101st Airborne Division, the O-Deuce "Widow Makers" battalion were often in the thick of the heaviest fighting in the

I Corps Tactical Zone. I try and describe my transformation from a spoiled college drop-out into a seasoned, combat infantry grunt, often called boonie rats. Like the infantry in any war, we had a pretty rough time; some of us survived and some did not. Many of us carried the symptoms of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) with us when we went home. The effects of PTSD are often masked, sometimes manifesting themselves only years later after another traumatic event brings them to the forefront. This is what happened to me after I was involved in the on-duty shooting death of a fellow law enforcement officer 6 years after I returned from Vietnam. This book is not a clinical, detailed military history of the 502nd Infantry Regiment but it is the personal history of a survivor of combat and the effects of PTSD. What happened to me is still happening to the combat veterans of Afghanistan and Iraq; there's really nothing new or different about the trauma of infantry combat except it's happening to a different generation in a different time and place. From the Inside Flap In other parts of Vietnam in the spring of 1970, the combat action had begun to slow down; but not so in the northern-most provinces of the Republic of (South) Vietnam. These five provinces (Quang Tri, Thua Thien, Quang Nam, Quang Tin and Quang Ngai) made up the I Corps Tactical Zone. The 3rd Marine Division left Vietnam in early 1970, leaving the responsibility for the vast area of the I Corps entirely to the 101st Airborne Division and its South Vietnamese allies. In April, the division began an operation code-named Texas Star. During the next six months, the 101st would fight several big engagements against an increasingly aggressive North Vietnamese Army (the NVA). From the Back Cover This memoir is the story of the 2nd Battalion 502nd Infantry Regiment, the 'O-Deuce Widow Makers' of the 101st Airborne Division's 1st Brigade. Told from the point of view of a young 'shake n bake' infantry sergeant named John Roberts, it is blunt and to the point. Written in the often crude language of the infantry 'grunt' of Vietnam, Roberts tells what it was like to experience combat in the triple-canopied jungle of western I Corps.