

NJDMAVA HIGHLIGHTS

MARCH 10, 2016



A family's long journey leads 3 brothers to new heights

Story and photos by Staff Sgt. Wayne Woolley, 444th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment



Warrant Officers Tu Bui, left, Daniel Bui, and Alvin Bui at Fort Rucker, Ala.

FORT RUCKER, Ala. -- Joseph Bui once jumped from a U.S. Army helicopter to a rooftop for an infantry assault during the Vietnam War.

As a young South Vietnamese Army soldier, he was impressed by the American technology, but far more taken by the ideals his allies from half a world away seemed to represent.

"America," he said through a translator. "Was freedom. A better life."

On March 3, Joseph Bui, 63, and his wife, Mung, 62, watched as three of their sons, Warrant Officer Alvin Bui, Warrant Officer Daniel Bui, and Warrant Officer Tu Bui, became the first brothers to graduate in the same class from the U.S. Army Initial Rotary Wing Training course and become UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter pilots.

Joseph Bui grinned beatifically as he and his wife, Mung, pinned silver aviator wings to their sons' dress uniforms during the graduation ceremony.

"Today was the day my brothers and I paid back our mother and father for all they've done for us," said Tu Bui, the youngest of a trio that often finishes

each other's sentences. "We want them to know that the sacrifices they made weren't for nothing."

The brothers serve in the New Jersey Army National Guard. Alvin Bui, 29,

"I kept hearing New Jersey needed more pilots. We decided to go for it."

Warrant Officer Tu Bui

joined first, followed by Daniel, 27, and Tu, 25. Alvin began his enlisted career as an unmanned aerial vehicle operator and maintainer. Daniel began in supply and later transitioned to become an unmanned aerial vehicle maintainer. Tu

became a crew chief with New Jersey's 150th Assault Helicopter Battalion.

"I kept hearing New Jersey needed more pilots," Tu said. "We decided to go for it."

The brothers began that path together, graduating in the same Warrant Officer Career College class to earn their commissions in 2014. And then it was on to flight school.

Because of the training schedules at the Aviation Center of Excellence, Daniel began his training first, followed by Alvin and Tu. Although the brothers trained separately for much of flight school, they lived and studied together.

Cover: 3 brothers

New Jersey Army National Guard Warrant Officers Tu Bui, left, Alvin Bui and Daniel Bui at Fort Rucker, Ala., March 3, 2016. The brothers became what are believed to be the first brothers to graduate on the same day from the U.S. Army Initial Rotary Wing Training course to become Army aviators. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Wayne Woolley/Released)

Col. Mark Levine, Director of TRADOC Capability Manager for Lift, noted the Bui brother's graduation was a historic moment. Twenty-eight years of records showed no trio of brothers becoming Army aviators at the same time.

They compared notes about the perils of the water survival test, the stress of survival training and most importantly, the intellectual challenges of memorizing flight procedures and learning to handle a technologically-advanced aircraft.

At one point near the end of training, Chief Warrant Officer 3 David Torres, an instructor pilot, put Alvin and Tu together as "stick buddies."

"I thought it would be awesome. If my brother was there, I'd want to fly with him," Torres said. "And with brothers, you figure they'll study harder to outdo each other."

Although Daniel completed his training earlier, the decision was made to allow the brothers to graduate together.

Col. Mark Levine, Director of TRADOC Capability Manager for Lift, noted the Bui brother's graduation was a historic moment. Twenty-eight years of records showed no trio of brothers becoming Army aviators at the same time.

"What an incredible honor to have three brothers graduating on the same day," Levine said, in his address their graduating class.

After the ceremony, Daniel Bui, said it was the matter of making the most of an opportunity.

"It's being in the right place, at the right time, and doing the

right things," he said.

Doing the right thing is a bit of a theme for the Bui family.

"What we're doing lets the kids that will come in the future see what we did coming from Vietnam and realize they can do what we did – or more."

Warrant Officer Alvin Bui

After serving alongside American military forces in the war, Joseph Bui became determined to someday come to America. But it took years of planning,

and saving.

When the war ended, Bui worked as a carpenter, got married and began a family.

In 1994, he was able to arrange for a relative living in Reading, Pa. to sponsor the family. By then, eight of the Bui's nine children had already been born. After living in Pennsylvania for several years, the family moved to Toms River, N.J. in 2003.

The family's older daughters helped Mung Bui open a nail salon and the older brothers went to work doing construction with their father.

By then, Alvin was 16. Daniel and Tu got up with him at 4 every morning do a paper route before walking to school.

"We just took care of each other," Tu said. "We knew how hard our Mom, Dad and older siblings were working. We just had that self-sufficient mindset. Look toward a goal. Work hard and get there."

The Bui brothers are eager to get back to New Jersey and begin on-the-job training. Because they are all junior pilots, it will take some time before they share the same cockpit.

Each has a goal as an aviator. Alvin hopes to land a civilian job as a pilot to compliment his Army National Guard career. Daniel wants to focus on improving his flight skills with the aim of becoming a pilot in command, the aircraft commander. Tu is aiming even higher. He's already started to check out the NASA program that turns Soldiers into astronauts.

"Go big or go home, right?" he said with a laugh.

The brothers have two other goals.

The first is helping their baby sister, Linh, 19, join the Army National Guard and become an aviator.

The second?

Become an example for the next generation of the Bui family, like their parents before them.

"We're the zero generation ... what we're doing sets the bar," Alvin said. "What we're doing lets the kids that will come in the future see what we did coming from Vietnam and realize they can do what we did – or more."



Joseph Bui, left, pins silver aviator wings on Warrant Officer Alvin Bui as the Soldier's mother, Mung Bui, looks on during the graduation ceremony March 3, 2016, at Fort Rucker, Ala.

NEW COMMANDER FOR 50TH IBCT

By Sgt. Bill Addison, 444th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

Col. Christopher Schriecks assumed command of the New Jersey Army National Guard's 50th Infantry Brigade Combat Team during a change of command ceremony at the brigade's headquarters in Lawrenceville, N.J., March 6.

Schriecks relieved Col. Edward Chrystal Jr., who led the brigade during a major transition period and oversaw the deployment and homecoming of more than 800 50th IBCT Soldiers around the world.

Maj. Gen. Harry Miller, 42nd Infantry Division commander, presided over the ceremony. The 50th IBCT is one of seven National Guard Brigades from six states that comprise the division, which is headquartered in Troy, N.Y.

Miller noted Schriecks' history as a leader within the brigade; starting as a platoon leader with the 2-102nd Armor – now the 102nd Cavalry, later commanded two separate battalions within the brigade and then serving as the brigade's executive officer. He recently served as commander of the 50th Military Engagement Team in Kuwait.

"Chris Schriecks, you're postured for success to command this great brigade," Miller said.

Schriecks noted the challenges, and opportunities ahead of the brigade as they move forward into the next phase of the Army Force Generation Cycle.

"It is an exciting time to be part of the 50th," he said. "We will show that our Soldiers not only possess the professionalism and dedication for success, but will also prove that the New Jersey Army National Guard is, and will always be, a vital asset in the



Col. Christopher Schriecks, left, receives the colors of the New Jersey Army National Guard's 50th Infantry Brigade Combat Team from Maj. Gen. Harry Miller, commander, 42nd Infantry Division, during a change of command ceremony at the brigade's headquarters at the National Guard Armory in Lawrenceville March 6, 2016. Schriecks assumed command from Col. Edward Chrystal Jr., who led the brigade during various deployments. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Sgt. Jorge Morales/Released)

defense of this nation."

During the ceremony, Miller praised Chrystal for his leadership of the brigade during the past two years.

"Ed Chrystal has done a phenomenal job over the last two years commanding this brigade," he said.

Chrystal credited the efforts of the Soldiers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Officers of the Brigade for their professionalism and dedication to duty.

"You truly represent all that is great about this generation of Citizen-Soldier," he said. "You've made my job easy."

**Move
your
clock
ahead**

Daylight savings time begins this Sunday, March 13 at 2 a.m. Set your clocks forward one hour before you go to bed Saturday night.



Warrior Games needs volunteers

The United States Army Warrior Transition Command will be hosting the 2016 DoD Warrior Games at the United States Military



Academy in West Point, N.Y., June 15-21, 2016. Volunteers are needed to support the hundreds of wounded, ill, injured service members and veterans. No special expertise required and all ages can participate.

If you'd like more information on volunteer opportunities, to coordinate a large volunteer group or how to volunteer in other ways to make this event a success, simply contact Crystal Arriaga, Volunteer Coordinator – Outreach at DoDW-GVolunteers@mail.mil or at 571-239-4063.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH



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HONORING WOMEN IN PUBLIC SERVICE AND GOVERNMENT



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Designed by James Ladner for the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute

OPPORTUNITIES FOR VETERANS

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Southern New Jersey Branch Present



Operation: I Am Woman
A Women Veterans Symposium

Saturday, March 26, 2016
8 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Camden County College
Blackwood Campus
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This event is free and open to the public. The symposium will focus on women veterans and provide them with the resources needed to transition to civilian life.

REGISTER ONLINE www.eventbrite.com
SEARCH **Operation: I Am Woman**

EVENT CONTACTS
Zaida Nogue
CCC Veterans Office
(856) 374-4960

Cheryl Turner-Paige
NAUW, Southern New Jersey
catpaige@comcast.net

Mary Brooks
NAUW, Southern New Jersey
nausnbj@gmail.com



Join us for the

JB McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst Veteran Career Summit Empowering the Military Community - Enhancing Veteran Competitiveness

Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, NJ | April 7-8, 2016

April 7th

10:00 AM
Interactive Forums & Panel
Discussions for *Uniformed
Leaders, Employers and
Community Leaders*

4:00 PM
Industry Briefs for Job
Seekers

5:30 PM
Networking Reception for
Employers, Senior Leaders,
and Job Seekers

April 8th

9:00 AM
Employment Workshops
for Job Seekers

11:00 AM
Interactive Forums & Panel
Discussions for
Job Seekers

1:00 PM
Hiring Fair and Career
Forum

Join us for a free hiring fair and transition summit for Service Members, Veterans, and Military Spouses. This summit features key Federal & State agencies, influential military leaders, innovators in the business and employer community, and local community leaders. This summit features participation by and speakers from Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, the U.S. Department of Labor Veterans' Employment and Training Service, the U.S. Air Force, the U.S. Army, the U.S. Marines, the U.S. Navy, the U.S. Coast Guard, the U.S. Small Business Administration, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation's Hiring Our Heroes, the U.S. Department of Labor, and local chambers of commerce.

The two-day Transition Summit will feature informative and interactive panel events, recruiter training, and facilitated discussions focused on improving competitive employment for Service Members, Veterans, and Spouses in addition to a networking reception for employers, senior leaders, and job seekers.

All of the lessons learned will bring together job seekers and employers and culminate in a hiring fair and career forum on April 8th. Sign up now.

For registration questions, please contact us at transitionsummits@uschamber.com or call 202-463-5807.

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JOB SEEKERS Register for FREE at
HIRINGOURHEROES.ORG
to guarantee admission. Walk-ins welcome but space not guaranteed.




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- Know your value in the workplace
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Unleashing the Power of Women Veterans

NGANJ 2016 Scholarship



Applications will only be accepted **February 1 through April 15**.
Incomplete applications or those postmarked after April 15 will **not** be considered.
http://www.nganj.org/docs/2016/Scholarship_Application_2016_fillin.pdf



CPT Gus Tascon 862-251-3662
SCHOLARSHIP@NGANJ.ORG

Veterans outreach campaign

<p>Town Hall Meeting/ Claims Clinic March 29 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. NJ Vietnam Veterans Edu- cation Center Holmdel 1 Memorial Lane Holmdel, NJ 07733</p> <p>“Housing Our Heroes” Veterans Housing Forum IV March 30 1 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. All Wars Memorial Building 1510 Adriatic Avenue Atlantic City, N.J. 08401</p>	<p>Veterans Outreach Campaign & Medal Ceremony March *30 - 31 10 a.m. – 8 p.m., daily NJDMAVA medal ceremony on March 30 at 11 a.m., at Center Court Deptford Mall 1750 Deptford Center Road Deptford, N.J. 08096</p> <p>Job Fair April 13 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. The Imperia 1714 Easton Ave. Somerset, NJ 08873</p>	<p>Veterans Commanders Call April 15 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Lawrenceville National Guard Armory-Garden Room 151 Eggert Crossing Road Lawrenceville, NJ 08648</p> <p>Veterans Health and Wellness Expo April 16 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Centre State Hospital – Freehold, Auditorium #1 & 2 901 W. Main Street Freehold, NJ 07728</p>	<p>NJ Vietnam Veterans Remembrance Day May 7 11 a.m. New Jersey Vietnam Veterans Memorial PNC Bank Arts Center Garden State Parkway Exit 116 Holmdel, N.J. 07777</p> <p>Veterans Information and Outreach Fair May 7 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Fair Lawn Community Center 10-10 20th Street Fair Lawn, NJ 07410</p>
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New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
PO Box 340
Trenton, NJ 08625-0340
1-888-8NJ-VETS(8387) or www.state.nj.us/military



Raymond L. Zawacki, Deputy Commissioner for Veterans Affairs (609-530-7062)
Cheryl Henderson, Executive Secretarial Assistant (609-530-7045)
Chuck Robbins, Assistant to DCVA/Outreach Coordinator (609-530-8855)

Fax: 609-530-7191

Veterans Healthcare Services (DVHS)

<p>Brigadier General Steven Ferrari, Director 609-530-6967 Donna Myers, Sec 609-530-6766 Virginia Fliess, QA Coordinator 609-530-6979 Fax: 609-530-6970</p>	<p>Menlo Park Veterans Memorial Home Joseph Brandspiegel, CEO Jennifer Pajak, Sec 132 Evergreen Road, PO Box 3013 Edison, NJ 08818-3013 732-452-4102 Fax: 732-603-3016</p>	<p>Paramus Veterans Memorial Home Dianne Tabron-Felder, CEO Diane Callaghan, Sec 1 Veterans Drive Paramus, NJ 07652 201-634-8525 Fax: 201-967-8658</p>	<p>Vineland Veterans Memorial Home Allyson Bailey, Acting CEO Sharon Frye, Sec 524 North West Boulevard Vineland, NJ 08360-2895 856-405-4207 Fax: 856-696-6714</p>
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Veterans Services (DVS)

<p>Albert J. Bucchi, Director 609-530-6962 Cynthia Barnes, Sec 609-530-6975 Fax: 609-530-7075</p>	<p>Brigadier General William C. Doyle Veterans Memorial Cemetery Iven Dumas, State Supt – 609-738-2424 Genia DiBella, Sec – 609-738-2404 Cyndi Dzurisin, Interment Office Supervisor, – 609-738-2407 Dennis Macomber, Honor Guard, – 609-758-7505 350 Provinceline Road, Wrightstown, NJ 08562 609-738-2400 Fax: 609-758-0169 Maintenance/Cemeteries/Memorials Joseph Arroyo & Kenneth Smith Supervisor, 609-738-2406 Fax: 609-758-3490</p>	<p>Vietnam Veterans Memorial 1 Memorial Lane, PO Box 648, Holmdel, NJ 07733 732-335-0033 Fax: 732-335-1107</p> <p>Korean Memorial Boardwalk/Brighton Park, Atlantic City, NJ 08401</p> <p>War World II Memorial W State Street, Trenton, NJ 08608</p>	<p>Veterans Haven South Walter Nall, Supt – 609-561-4948 Vacant, Asst, Supt – 609-567-3715 301 Spring Garden Road, PO Box 80 Winslow, NJ 08095 609-561-0269 Fax: 609-567-5186</p>	<p>Veterans Haven North Sean VanLew, Supt – 908-537-1960 Laura Blaine, Sec – 908-537-1963 200 Sanatorium Road, Suite 101 Glen Gardner, NJ 08826 908-537-1999 Fax: 908-537-1990</p>
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<p>State Approving Agency-GI Bill Programs Charles Rowe, Bureau Chief – 609-530-6842 Marisol Meyer, Education Prog Asst – 609-530-6849 Lynn Yesalonia, State Admin – 609-530-6858 Joan Edwards, State Admin – 609-530-6948 Fax: 609-530-7196</p>	<p>Veterans Benefits Bureau Patricia A. Richter, Bureau Chief – 609-530-6949 Elizabeth Schofield, Prin Staff Officer – 609-530-6954 Paul Kale, Staff Asst – 609-530-6826 Vacant, Sec – 609-530-6868 Michele Johnson, Sec – 609-530-7035 Fax: 609-530-6970</p>	<p>Veterans Service Offices Joseph Bucco, State Supervisor – 609-530-6830 Christopher Wambach, State Supervisor – 609-530-6863 Joseph E. Nyzio, VSO – 609-530-6857</p> <p>VA Regional Office/Philadelphia Charles Piscopo, VSO – (Mon, Wed, Alternate Fridays) 5000 Wissahickon Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19144 856-853-4184/4185/4186</p>
<p>Atlantic City/Cape May Nicholas Petrozzino, VSO Sherri Morris, Sec 1008 Absecon Boulevard, Atlantic City 08401-1999 ~ (Atlantic City Armory) 609-441-3060/3061 Fax: 609-441-3899 (closed alternate Fridays)</p>	<p>Bergen/Passaic Joseph Restivo, VSO Titus Osuagwu, Sec 125 State Street, Suite 109, Hackensack 07601-5435 201-996-8050/8051 Fax: 201-996-8009</p>	<p>Burlington Matthew Still, VSO Vacant, Sec 555 High Street, Suite 6A, Mt. Holly 08060 609-518-2273/2274 Fax: 609-518-2275</p>
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<p>Mercer William McDonnell, VSO Theresa Tomecheck, Sec 151 Eggerts Crossing Road, Room 136, Lawrenceville 08648 ~ (Lawrenceville Armory) 609-671-6897/6896 Fax: 609-671-6898</p>	<p>Middlesex/Somerset Joseph Battilo, VSO Vacant, Sec 1060 Hamilton Street, Somerset 08873 ~ (Somerset Armory) 732-937-6347/6348 Fax: 732-937-6417 (closed alternate Fridays)</p>	<p>Monmouth Peter J. Midgley, VSO Rita Hyland, Sec 630 Bangs Avenue, Suite 320, Asbury Park 07712-6904 732-775-7009/7005 Fax: 732-775-3612</p>
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*Depending on position and company, salary range is \$14.00 to \$20.25 per hour

Class Dates and Times:

Feb. 27	9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
March 1	6 p.m. - 9 p.m.
March 3	6 p.m. - 9 p.m.
March 5	9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
March 8	6 p.m. - 9 p.m.
March 10	6 p.m. - 9 p.m.
March 15	6 p.m. - 9 p.m.
March 16	6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

For More Information Contact:

Heather Johnson,
Burlington County Workforce
Development Institute
609-518-3900

hejohnson@co.burlington.nj.us



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Brig. Gen. Michael L. Cunniff
The Adjutant General

Brig. Gen. Steven Ferrari
The Deputy Adjutant General

Raymond Zawacki
Deputy Commissioner for Veterans Affairs

Chief Warrant Officer 3 Patrick Daugherty
Public Affairs Officer

Master Sgt. Mark C. Olsen
Editor, layout, photographer

Kryn P. Westhoven
Writer, photographer

Staff Sgt. Wayne Woolley
Writer, photographer

Tech. Sgt. Matt Hecht
Photographer, graphic artist

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