

RICHARD KERR, JR.



1ST BATTALION
50TH INFANTRY



Richard "Dick" Kerr joined the Marine Corps on the 20th of December, 1954 and attained the rank of Corporal by 1957. He was certified as a Marine Corps Drill Instructor on March 14th of 1957 and promoted to Sergeant. He was honorably discharged from the Marine Corps in November of 1961 and immediately re-enlisted in the United States Army, where he again attained the rank of Sergeant E-5 by 1964. While Assigned to Charlie Company, 1st Battalion

(Mechanized), 50th Infantry, in late 1965 at Fort Hood Texas, he was promoted to the rank of Staff Sergeant E6 and assigned as a Drill Sergeant as the 1-50 began a new mission as a Basic Combat Training unit in conjunction with the escalating United States Military presence in the former Republic of South Vietnam. Staff Sergeant Kerr was an imposing presence in Charlie Company at 6 Foot 8 Inches tall and a body hardened by years of training. After graduating 3 groups of Basic Trainees, the 1-50 was ordered to retain the final group and train them in Advance Individual Training as Infantrymen. This group would become the nucleus of the full combat ready 1-50 as it deployed to Vietnam in September of 1967.

In the summer of 1967, Sergeant Kerr was assigned to the 1-50 Battalion Command group as the Intelligence NCOIC...where he served in that capacity until August of 1968.

From October of 1968 until September of 1974, Sergeant Kerr served in the Army Recruiting Command where he achieved the rank of Sergeant First Class in 1970. In 1973, before retirement from the US Army, Sergeant Kerr reached the rank of Master Sergeant.

Dick Kerr was a Life Member of the Association of the 1st Battalion, 50th Infantry and attended his last reunion at Fort Benning in May of 2013.

Among Sergeant Kerr's awards and decorations were: The Combat Infantry Badge, The Bronze Star with Oak Leaf Cluster, The Air Medal, The Good Conduct Medal, and numerous other campaign medals.



MASTER
SERGEANT



INFANTRYMAN

