

Griffins,

I'm sorry to report that our pal Michael "Mikey" Clark passed away last night. All will remember Mikey as an easy going Crew Chief, happy and smiling and quick to shake your hand and welcome you to his aircraft, always reminding you that it was "HIS JET, you were just borrowing it". What you may not know is there was another side to that cheerful professional; Mikey was a steely-eyed Marine during the Vietnam war and served as a door gunner on Helo's. He had 47 confirmed NVA kills, was awarded 13 Air Medals, during his 130 combat missions. In the later stages of the war his aircraft was shot down, he and his crew were quickly recovered. Mikey was an old school military man that was best friend to so many, he will truly be missed by all that had the privilege of knowing him. It was an honor Mikey, Godspeed my friend.

Memorial service information pending.

Shredder

Griffins,

Mike Clarke's viewing is [Thursday Feb 22](#) from 1400-1900 at Steven & Bean [202 N Teilman Ave Fresno, CA](#). Graveside service is [Friday 23 Feb at 10 AM](#), Saint Peters Cemetery [264 N Blythe Ave Fresno, Ca](#) Military Honors by Joint Services Honor Command. St Peters phone number is [559-488-7449](#)  
Steven & Bean phone number is [559-268-9292](#) Website: [www.stevenandbean.com](http://www.stevenandbean.com)

Mike passed due to Severe septics on Feb 9th at Clovis Community hospital.

Ray "Shredder" Lynott  
Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 12, 2018, at 12:27, Victor Sikora wrote:

Shredder, B.O.B.,

Thanks for sharing. That breaks my heart. I remember my first encounter with Mike. I was a brand new snot nosed TSgt, and he was giving me the evil eye like you read about (because I made TSgt really fast, I was still a kid). Mike and I became good friends later and I've always had the highest respect for him. Heartbreaking.

Siko

On Feb 11, 2018, at 10:50, Jim McNab wrote:

Hello all,

Sadly, and with a broken heart, I am writing this at the news of losing a great friend, Mike Clarke. Mike was one of many fine maintenance folks we have at Fresno. Friendly, hard working, and with a great sense of humor, Mike was always a welcome sight to see when out at the base.

Mike and I had a parallel 'former life' in the United States Marine Corps prior to joining the Fresno California Air National Guard. How do I even begin to tell you what a terrific American, Guardsman, and friend he was. We both were in Vietnam as enlisted Marines in the late 60s/early70s. When we first met while at the Fresno Air Guard, we were instant friends/brothers-in-arms. I will never forget hearing Mike -- emulating a Marine Drill Instructor -- calling Marine-style cadence as I walked across the ramp on my way to the aircraft to fly. I would smile and turn towards Mike and we would stand at attention and return salutes just like we had learned in Marine boot camp.

Whether at work on the flight line, at the club, or just hanging out at his place for "beer call" on the weekends with some of the other flight line folks, Mike had a smile and a greeting for everyone. I am glad I had the privilege to work with Mike and to know him as a friend. He leaves a big hole in my heart. I will miss him.

Semper fi, my friend.

B.O.B.