



### Press Release - Book Signing

On Sunday November 21, 2010 at 1:00PM, the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 6763, 155 Front Street, South Plainfield, NJ will host an author's lecture, and book signing by hometown resident, Joseph Belardo.

Joe's book, [Dusterman – Vietnam.... Story of: The Last Great Gunfighters](#), is a transcript of his diary and memoirs, including photographs, from when he served in Vietnam along the DMZ in 1967 and 1968 during the TET Offensive. Joe was in a specialized Army mobile combat team and body recovery unit attached to the Third Marine Division.

His book gives a detailed, day-by-day, frontline battle and body recovery narrative of daily combat life. His fascinating, introspective memoir reveals a sensitive soul's struggle to be physically and mentally strong amidst unimaginably horrible suffering and dying.

Joe and his crew hold the distinct honor of being the last to leave the finally abandoned Khe Sanh Combat Base.

Joe has appeared in two TV documentaries: *The Soldiers Story* and *Vietnam War* with Oliver North. He is an author who has been published in the book *The Soldiers Story – Vietnam in Their Own Words*, *Vietnam Magazine – Dusters Battle for Route 9*, *The Khe Sanh* book of Poetry



and the *Khe Sanh Magazine "Red Clay."* Joe's medals include the Bronze Star with Valor, multiple Purple Hearts and numerous Army and Marine Corps medals and citations.

### Book Review- Allan Penwell

This is a must-have, must-read book written by Duster driver Joe Belardo of C-1/44th that was edited by NDQSA chaplain, Sam Hopkins. It's the diary and pictures that all of us wished we would have kept while we were in Vietnam. As Bob Lauver said, "I read it in one sitting and had trouble sleeping the next three nights." After attending the reunion last year I found that some of you like Joe, were in intense combat, but for others of us, while danger always lurked, not much went on. The thing that struck me was how prepared Joe and his crew were for combat. They knew just what to do, like having the track commander's seat pulled out so extra ammunition could be stored. Or the driver was assigned certain tasks in a firefight such as guarding the track from NVA sappers trying to throw a satchel charge in the tub. Joe's book is a great read as he mixes combat action with the day-to-day life of the American G.I. from basic training to homecoming.

Joe has set up a website for ordering this book online. [www.dusterman6768.com](http://www.dusterman6768.com) PayPal only.

To order by mail send a check for \$25 to: Nancy Belardo, 527 O'Donohue Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080.