

11/10/2016

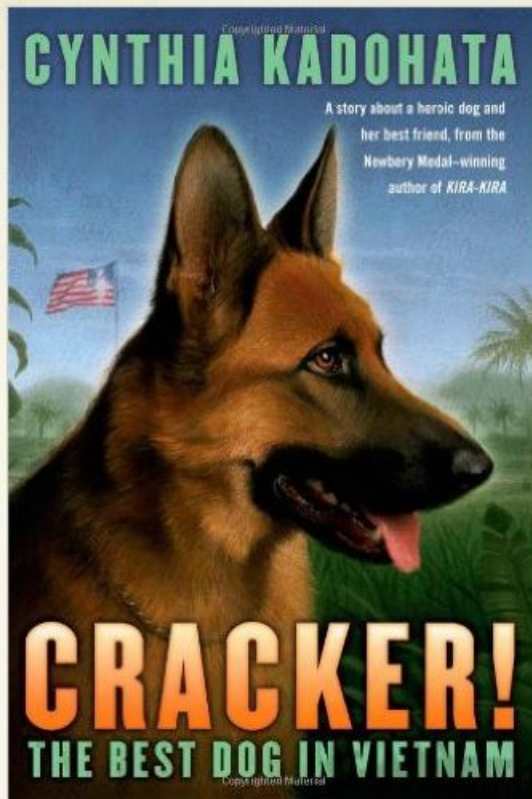
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MOUNT VERNON

MIDDLE SCHOOL

The letters you are about to read were written by Mrs. Trudy Debolt's 6th Grade students at the Mount Vernon, Ohio Middle School. As an assignment, the students were instructed to read the fictional book **"Cracker! The Best Dog in Vietnam"** written by Cynthia Kadohata. Next, each student should type a letter to a veteran dog handler, thanking them for their service.



289 Martinsburg rd.
Mt.vernon, Oh 43050
Nov.8, 2016

Dear Vietnam Veterans,

I have learned about what happened to you and your dog.
Thank you for your service. You and your dog saved VERY MANY lives.
I am sorry in advance for all the questions.

What was it like when you first got your dog? Did it bite you when you first got him? What was your dog's name? What was his ear tag number? Was your dog sweet or aggressive toward? How many lives did your dog save? Did you get drafted or did you enlist? Did you get to choose the next person your dog went to?

We have learned that scout dogs walked point and saved whole platoons. Was your dog a scout dog, a sentry dog, or a tracker dog? Was your dog already trained? Did you have fun training your dog? Was your dog easy or hard to train?

Thank you again for helping south Vietnam. Did you ever get to go on a special forces mission? We have learned soooooo much from reading Cracker. We have learned that your dog was a target since he was soooo smart and well trained. Thank you for helping prevent vietnam from becoming a communist country. We have seen videos of the stabo harness. Did you ever get to actually use a stabo harness? When you used it did you have fun floating under a helicopter in a harness? Did your dog enjoy the helicopter? Did you ever sleep in a rice paddy? How heavy was your rucksack? We have heard the dogs had many different signals for different things. What signals did your dog use?

I am sorry again for all the questions. Thank you for serving our country. Have a very happy veteran's day.

Sincerely,
Student #2

P.s. if you would like to write back you can contact my teacher at
tdebolt@mvcasd.us

298 Martinsburg Rd.
Mt. Vernon, OH 43050
November 7, 2016

Dear Vietnam Veteran,

I want to say thank you for fighting and caring for our country and in this letter I'm going to ask you some questions and thank you for what you did.

I have a question about did you get into any fights with any other men. Also I want to ask how old was your dog and what was your dog's name and its ear number. Another question I would like to ask is where were you stationed. My class read the book Cracker that was about the Vietnam war and it is my favorite book of all-time with the main character Rick Claggett.

I always wondered how long was the war and also I want to ask what kind of food did you get to eat there. I still want to thank you about the war also was your dog mean when you first met him or her. I still wonder what a rice patty is as its definition. Also did you think your dog was the best dog in Vietnam.

I just want to say Thank you for what you did in Vietnam and being in the military and helping south Vietnam and how you got treated when you got back and you deserved appreciation and I just want to say I really really thank you for what you did and happy Veterans day next Friday. My teacher's email is tdebolt@mvcasd.us.

Sincerely, student 3

298 Martins Rd
Mt.Vernon, OH 43050
November 8, 2016

Dear Vietnam Veterans,

I would like to thank you for our service, and for the south vietnam's service. Im sure they were pleased with your service to their country. I also have some questions for you! Did you think your dog would be the best in Vietnam? Did you get drafted or did you sign up for war? What kind of Germanshepherd did you have? What kind of personality did he/ she have?

My great uncle served in the vietnam war too. He was a grute, that is what I was told by my grandmother. If you had a sentry dog, was it hard to train them or to even get near them? Where were you stationed at? If you had a scout dog, what was there training like? If you had a tracker dog, what was there training like?

When I was trick or treating, I saw a Vietnam Dog Handler. I asked him if he had a Sentry dog, Scout dog, or a tracker dog. He said that he had a scout dog, he even told me a story about his dog. Did you ever have to stay the night in a rice patty? Did your dog sleep with you? I heard that when new soldiers came, they packed there rucksack FULL of socks, and other things. What was the biggest rucksack you have seen your time of service? Expeshally how HUGE was your rucksack when you started? How big was your platoon?

What was your dogs name? What was your platoon number? How old were you when you joined the army? When you were in your station, how many fights did you see? Were you in any fights yourself? Was your doggy already trained when you got he/ she, or did you have to train your dog? Where were you stationed at? How did you get drafted (if you were drafted).

Sincerely,
Student 4. o(^^o)

If you would like to write back, contact this email address
tdebolt@mvcasd.us

*298martinburgPd
Mt. vernonch, 43050
november 8, 2016*

Dear vietnam vetaren

*I want to thank you for serving our contry and your servece.
I want to ask what type of dog did you have?What was the dog
no#?Was it hard training your dog?My brother got a military sheet
yesterday.I learned in cracker dog handlers had to train their dogs so
that the dog would help and to attack.I also learned that dog handlers
had confidence ,bravness,effort ,and apprissiation for their dogs to take
that risk..My brother told me that "There are moments in life when you
have to take a risk and go for it this is one of those moments ".I know
that I would be nervous going into vietnam.I know that training your
dog was problebly hard to train.*

*Sincerly,
no#5*

Contact me at tdebolt@mvcisd.us

298 Martinsburg RD.
Mt. Vernon, OH 43050
November 8, 2016

Dear vietnam vet,

I am so amazed at everything that went on to save our country and others from being communist countries. You took a chance and went to war for others in a desperate time of need. How was it in Nam? I know I would be so proud just to know a vietnam war dog. I have 2 dogs I had three but one past. I thought you might want to tell me a little about where you were stationed at and your experience in vietnam when you possibly reply. I REALLY REALLY like learning about the history of war and especially the stories behind the soldiers and the dogs. I love connecting to stories that people have of war and people in them. I can't imagine how everything would have been. I am so shocked and I want you to know I am so grateful and proud to live in america and for the vets and the passes of lives we have had to fight for and protect this country. This twisted tale of america's history is quite a journey and I hope and hope you love this letter. The way people and you yourself fought and fought for our freedom is a heartwarming thought to come upon. I think being in war isn't that great but to have people like you that are willing to serve for others is such an honor THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE... THANK YOU!!!. I really want to know how walking point and even having a war dog was so if you get a chance to reply than please do it at tdebolt@mvcisd.us !!

P.S: please when you reply include your type of military working dog!

Sincerely,
Student 7

298 martinsburg Rd.
Mt. vernon OH,43050
November 7,2016

Dear Vietnam Veterans,

I would like to thank you for all that you have done.I just have a few questions .I want to know if you had a dog.If so than was it hard to train.and then what was your dogs number.I hope you have the time to read this paper.I wish you a happy veterans day.My class just got done with a book called cracker and it made me think of those who fought in the war.what was your platoon number.?And were you ever an attack dog dummy?I learned that it was hard training the dogs for war.

P.s we would like you to take the time to read this and remember to reply and remember happy Veterans Day to all.

If you would like to contact my teacher here is her email address is T[Debolt@mvcasd.us](mailto:TDebolt@mvcasd.us)

Sincerely student 8

298 Martinsburg Rd.
Mt.Vernon, Ohio 43050
November 7,2016

Dear Vietnam Veterans,

I'm writing this letter to thank you for serving our country and for serving South Vietnam. Would you say your dog is much more than a dog it is family. Was your dog a scout,sentry, or tracker. What made you wanna be become a dog handler. Did you think that your dog was the best dog in Vietnam. When you were with your dog did you feel like you were in heaven. Our class read the book Cracker which is about a Vietnam dog. The book taught us a lot about Vietnam.

I've always wondered how it would feel to be a dog handler. With how much responsibility you guys have you must have felt a lot of pressure. Was training your dog the most fun part of Vietnam. I hope you write back, My teacher's email is tdebolt@mvcasd.us.

Sincerely, student 11

Dear vietnam veterans,

I am writing this letter to thank you for your service. Did you think that your dog was the best dog in vietnam? Was your dog hard to train? Do you know how many booby traps your dog found? I would love to hear your stories about you and your dog in vietnam. What was your dogs tattoo number? Was it fun working in the vietnam? Did it take a long time to train your dog? Was your dog a boy, or a girl? We read "cracker" in class it was a good book. It taught us a lot about the vietnam war. What states did you get to go to and how long were you there.

I am glad you made it back to the united states. Thank you for serving in vietnam. Thank you for making south america a communist country. Your dog saved large groups of people. Thank you for making our country great.

Sincerely
Student 12

298 Martinsburg Rd.
Mt. Vernon, Ohio 43050
November 8, 2016

Dear Vietnam Veterans,

I just wanted to thank you for your service and to wish you a happy Veterans day. Do you think your dog was the best dog in Vietnam. Was your dog hard to train when you got it. Do you know how many boobytraps did your dog find. How hard was it to carry your rucksack because it was double the weight of every else's I was wonder where were you stationed at in Vietnam. Did you get in any fights with men in your plotone. Were you ever the dog attack dummie. I heard that century dog handlers would let go of the lease when there is bad guys shooting at you. Walking point would be hard because they would wanting to target your dog because your dog was so smart they were gelish. Walking point propyle hard because you could get trip by a trip wire if you go in front of your dog. Thank you for reading these letter. If you want to write back you can contact my teacher. tdebolt@mvcasd.us

Sincerely,
Student 13

298 Martinsburg Rd
Mt. Veronon, OH 43050
November 7, 2016

Dear vietnam veterans.,

Thank you for serving are country and the south vietnam and form protecting us. Also it's a honor to be writing to you soldries. I have a few qustions to ask you soldries like did you think your dog was the best dog in the, what kind of dog was she or he because I know there was a lot of germen sheperds in the vietnam war. Also how was it if you tranided a century dog because jeff curts told us how he was a test dummy for the century dogs and it sounded it sounded like a hard thing to do and it sounded painful he told us in hes email. Did you ever spend the night in a rice paddie because it sounds bad but but guys did to save are country and the dogs. What was your dog name because I know there was a lot of princes and big boy names. Also did you ever get in a fight with somebody and if you did I bet you won. Where were you stationed in vietnam? Did your dogs sniff out any bombs or find any and I bet if they did you guys were really proud of them and happy for theme. Also thank yor for for protecting are country and south vietnam thank you and thank you for taking the time to read my letter. Also if you guys would like to write back you can contact Tdebolt@mvcasd.us because i would love to hear your stories about your dogs in the Vietnam war. Also happy veterans day to you soldries!

Sincerly,
Student 14

298 Martinsburg Rd.
Mt.Vernon,OH43050
November 7, 2016

Dear Vietnam Veterans,

I'm writing this letter to thank you for serving our country and your service. I really wanted to know how to train a dog. I really appreciate the time that you serve our country. Thank you for being in Vietnam and helping Vietnam not to become a communist country. I learned that when you are in the walking point the handler has to stand behind the dog so if the dog signals you know that there is something in there like a trap or a trip wire. And I also learned that it's so hard to change a dog that you trained to attack people. I learned a lot about Vietnam war. I have a question about the dogs in Vietnam: what kind of dogs do you have and what's the dog? It's interesting to ask a lot of questions about Vietnam war. It's interesting to hear some story about Vietnam war. Can you tell me some story about Vietnam war? I would love to hear a story about Vietnam war. Thank you for reading my letter. I appreciate it.

If you want to reply just reply to my teacher. Her account is tdebolt@mvcisd.us.

Sincerely,
Student 15

298 Martinsburg Rd



Mt. Vernon, Ohio 43050

November 8, 2016

Dear Vietnam Veterans,

I am writing this letter to thank you for serving our country. I was so fascinated to learn about the Vietnam war. My favorite part about the Vietnam war was learning about dog handlers and their dogs. The most disappointing part was that only about 200 dogs came back by the way did any of your dogs come back. Did you ever get to do anything “cool” like in the book Cracker on Thanksgiving a bunch of girls called the donut dollies, delivered well were supposed to, deliver them food.

I thought it was really cool that some dogs could sniff guys under water. I bet it was pretty difficult training a sentry dog. What kind of dog was your dogs. If i was in Vietnam I would want to be a dog handler because i would have something to keep me alive and something to be “happy” about. I bet the MRE’s were disgusting. Were you allowed to bring your dogs into the mess hall.

But, thank you guys for serving our country.

Hope you write back.

Student 20

298 Martinsburg Rd.
Mount Vernon, OH 43050
November 8, 2016

Dear Vietnam Veterans,

I'm writing to you all because I want to show my appreciation for all of your hard work. So before I start babbling I want to thank you all for your work?. I understand that around 200ish of the dogs came back, By Chance, Did any of yours come back? Now, You don't have to answer that, I don't mean to pry, So please don't answer what you don't want to. Anyways, What type of dog did you have, Scout, Sentry, or Tracker? Do any of you remember your dogs' name and/or personality of your dog? You and your dog worked so hard, how did it make you feel when your dog saved your life multiple times?

You must've been really brave, to put your life at risk. It really is a miracle to have you all back safely... Who knows what could've happened, But it truly is a miracle to see you all safe, And back. Again, Thank you for all the hard work and effort you put into this dangerous job. It was and still is very Appreciated. Thank you, So much.

You're Outstanding. Like, I still can't believe you went to South Vietnam, Just to help! I still can't get over the fact that You, YOU, were willing to put your life at risk just For others. That just Shows how Outstanding, Smart, Intelligent, and kind you really are. I'm sure everyone in South Vietnam, At that time, Are very thankful for what you did, Just for them.



Sincerely,
Student 21♥♥

298 Martinsburg rd.
Mt. Vernon Oh. 43050
November 8th, 2016

Dear Vietnam veterans,

I am writing this letter to say thank you for you service and a happy Veterans Day. I hope you enjoy my letter. I can't imagine what everyone goes through or has gone through but I really appreciate it. It is crazy that 4000 dogs went to the Vietnam War and only about 204 came back. My grandfather was also in the Vietnam War, but he was not a scout dog handler and doesn't like to talk about what happened. I heard in a book we read that the Viet-cong would wear the same cloths as everyone else and sometimes worked in the rice paddies, that must have been hard to tell the difference between them all. I am a part of a group called W.A.G.S and every Saturday we go and read to dogs at the dog shelter to calm them and also because of our love for dogs.

I hope it's ok if I ask some questions. Could you tell me some stories of your dog, training, and missions? What was your dogs ear tattoo number? Would you tell me your dog's name and personality?

Thank you so much for your service and have a wonderful Veterans day!

Sincerely,
Student 22

298 Martinsburg rd.
mt .vernon
November 8 2016

Dear vietnam veterans,

Veterans day is coming up soon and I would just like to say thank you so so much for serving our country, you did so much for our country, you saved many lives thank you. My class just got done reading Cracker, Cracker is the best book in the world. This year I learned so much about the vietnam war through Cracker and just talking about it school. From reading Cracker I learned a lot about about the vietnam war and how the soldiers were treated and how the dogs were trained. My favorite part in Cracker was the ending when Rick got to take Cracker home with him. From reading Cracker I also learned the way you guys lived like daily routines and what you guys ate. What was it like in vietnam??? Were you scared when you went into vietnam??? Do you have a german shepard now, if you what is she/his name??? Just this last weekend I read to a dog in a dog shelter, My teacher started a thing and it is called Wags and we read to the dogs in a dog shelter to help be more adoptable, i read to a Boston terrier her name is bella. My teacher told me that your mission is to let people know that so many dogs went into vietnam and only a few came back home, and that you guys want your dogs to be remembered, well, I will never forget of the dogs that served for our country and did not come back. Thank you so so much for reading my letter.

Sincerely, student 23



298 Martinsburg RD.
Mt.Vernon,OH 43050
November 8,2016

Dear Vietnam Veterans,

I am writing to you to thank you and learn more about Vietnam. There were about 200 dogs that made it home,was yours one?What was your dogs tattoo number?Do you remember your first mission?What is your dog's name?What was your platoon number?Was your dog scout,sentry,or tracker?Do you have a dog now if so what breed?

When we read cracker we learned about scout dogs.I learned that you had signals to learn for your dogs.You had to put lots of trust in your dog to not go ahead.There were also a lot of missions to go on.What did the tracker and sentry dogs do?What was the most popular kind of vietnam dog?I also learned that there was a whole platoon of people behind you..I know you ate MRE'S.

I would like to thank you for saving so many lives,and risking your own.You helped South vietnam not america wich is so importitnt in other lives.You did a great job fighting for them and us.Thank you for risking your saftey.You put a lot of work and effort into what you did for everyone.You were a great person and you still are.

Thank you for giving the time,consideration,and thought to read my letter.

Sincerely,
Student 24



298 Martinsburg Rd.

Mt. Vernon, Oh, 43050

November 8, 2016

Dear Vietnam Veterans,

Thank you for your service. I appreciate your willingness to help. Were you a scout dog handler, tracker, or sentry? No matter what you were I'm so happy that you helped in the US military. The feeling of knowing that about 10,000 lives were saved is amazing. What was the number of your platoon? In my english class we read the book *Cracker* and we learned what happened and what you guys had to do. Do you remember your first mission? It must have been nerve wracking not knowing what to expect. When you were assigned your dog were you happy with him/her? I know that a lot of men were not. If you were a scout dog handler do you remember walking point. Going up against the enemy must have been terrible! In the book *Cracker* on Thanksgiving there were girls called the donut dollies and they delivered them dinner. Did that happen? Thank you for reading my letter.

Sincerely,
Student 25



298 Martinsburg RD
Mt. vernon oh 43050
November 8 2016

Thank you for your service

Dear vietnam veterans,

Whoever is reading my letter thank you for serving are country of united states of america. I am going to ask a couple questions about your dogs and yourself. How many times has your lovely and amazing dog save your life? I just want to thank you guys for keeping us safe and I just got to say you guys are all amazing people and i hope you were not hurt badly in the war because I really care about you guys. I just want you guys to have a good vitamin day because you are all great people that deserve to be treated like us but even better and I am really sorry about how you couldn't take your dogs home they are amazing to. When you came back from the war I can't believe u got treated like crap because you should of got treated like warriors because you and your daos saved people's life and not much people care but i do and i just love you guys so much that i want to meet all of you in person. I am going to ask you a question were you all close to family with your dogs and your friends? Thank you for everything you have done hope you read my letter thank you. Sincerely student 26



298 Martinsburg Rd.
Mt. Vernon OH. 43050
November 8, 2016

Dear Vietnam Veterans,

I am a student at the Mount Vernon Middle School in Ohio. I am writing to you because i am interested in your actions in Vietnam. Although,I have a billion and one questions to ask you, I will only ask you a few. What was your dog's name? Also, how many years were you in service. I know you have a million stories about your dog, but will you send me some of your best ones. As a class we read Cracker, and when we read that, I learned that dog handlers had to walk point in front of a squadron of soldiers. Also I learned that there are 3 different types of dogs, Tracker, Sentry, and Scout. In the book it said that there were Donut Dollies that delivered food, is that true. I know you don't think you're a hero, but to me you're a big one. Thank you for being a hero and happy Veterans Day.

Sincerely,
Student 27



298 Martinsburg Rd.
Mt. Vernon OH 43050
November 8th 2016

Dear Vietnam Veterans,

We just finished the book *Cracker* and by the way this won't be about Rick. This will be about what all of you guys did in the Vietnam war. I personally want to hear and learn about you and your dog like if you have a scout dog what was your dogs name and personality and your name and if you had a sentry or tracker dog I would love to learn that about you and your vietnam Buddy What did your dog do? How long were you in country? I learn that you and your dog risked your life every day and reading *Cracker* and I think it's amazing what you did every day. Your scout dog or dog saved your life probably several times like from bombs and trip wires and you probably saved your dogs life several times. I am also very glad that you can read this letter and that you are still hear today that is a miracle and thank you for your service.



Sincerely,
Student 28



Rd.

43050

2016

298 Martinsburg

Mt. Vernon, Ohio

November, 8th,

Dear Vietnam Veterans,

Hello I am student 29 and I just wanted to say thank you for all that you have done you guys probably saved so many lives, when we read Cracker we all learned so much about what you guys did and we all are very thankful. I have so many questions for you but, I'm only going to ask a couple, because I don't want to take all of your time, my first question is What type of dog did you have and what was his or hers name? One more question is What was it like in Vietnam? Anyway I know that you probably don't think you are a hero but you are and I don't know where we would be without you guys. You guys inspired us so much that our teacher does this thing and it's called W.A.G.S and it is where we go to the dog shelter and read to the dogs to help them get adopted and so far I think it is working because my grandma is already thinking about adopting one.

Thanks again for everything we all are very thankful

Happy Veterans Day!!

Yours Truly

Student 29

298 martinsburg Rd.
Mt. Vernon, OH 43050
November 8th, 2016

Dear Vietnam Veterans,

I am Student 30 from Mt. Vernon Middle School, and I wanted to thank you guys so much for what you have done and what your dogs have done. You and your dogs are SO smart and I CANNOT THANK YOU ENOUGH!! You guys must have been SO tough and caring for your dogs like your dogs were to you. I know there were only about 204 or 206 dogs that came back out of about 2,000 dogs, by chance was your dog one of them? I looked up MRE'S and they looked filling enough for me but still, I bet you like having a full meal that is from a restaurant or a BIG meal. I thank you guys are so amazing!! I learned that there were donut dollies is that correct? I am really thankful that you are here and reading this. What did your dogs do and what did they act like? Did you get hand picked or hand pick someone else for a dog? What personality did your dog have and what ear number did they have? I am in a club called wags and we go to the dog shelter on Saturdays and read to the dogs for 1 hour.



Sincerely,
Student #30



298 Martinsburg Road
Mt. Vernon, OH 43050
November 8, 2016

Dear Vietnam Veterans,

I am writing to you today to thank you for your service to this country. During my sixth grade year I had the opportunity to learn some facts about the vietnam war. We learned about the different dog handlers during the Vietnam War. There are things I found interesting about each kind of dog job. Scout dogs and their handlers were sent out in platoons but only had one dog and handler to a mission. What I thought was interesting about sentry dogs was how they used them as prison guards and attack dogs. What I thought was interesting about tracker dogs and their handlers was how they had to keep the teams a secret and how they chased the viet cong down. I am sure south vietnam really appreciated the help to stop their country from being communist. Even after all the information I was given I still have a few questions to ask. One of those questions is, what was your favorite mre meal? Another question I have is, what was your dog's name and ear tattoo number? The last question I have at this time is, how long were you and your dog in service? Thank you for taking the time to read my letter. Again I appreciate your service. I hope you have a good Veterans Day.

Sincerely,
Student 31

298 Martinsburg Rd.
Mt. Vernon, OH 43050
November 8, 2016

Dear Vietnam Veterans,

I have learned a little bit about the Vietnam War . I think that what you and your dogs did was great. Before I ask too many questions I would like to go ahead and say Happy Veterans day! I read the book cracker and if you read this book did you think it was a good resemblance of real life? I can not belive that only about 204 dogs out 4000 came back to the U.S. If you didn't have a dog with you how much harder would it be to get through vietnam? I learned that scout dogs were trained to find booby traps, trip wires, and detect ambush's . Also which MRE did you think was the best and the worst.I think that it is pretty cool that you can cook your MRE with just pouring water in the bags and then it starts cooking Could you tell me the story of your dogs attitude or if you know any background information about the dog I think that would be pretty cool to know. Thanks you SO much for risking your lives for ours. Happy Veterans Day.



Sincerely

Student 32

298 Martinsburg Rd.
Mt. Vernon, OH 43050
November 8, 2016

Dear Vietnam Veterans,

I wanted to start by thanking all of you and your dogs for your service. We read the book Cracker in Mrs. Debolt's class, and towards the end I realized the reality of the Vietnam war. I am deeply sorry for the way you and your dogs were treated, after saving so many lives. I would like to know, if you remember, what your first mission was like, and what your dog's personality was. One thing I learned about was the M.R.E. food rations. What was your favorite M.R.E. and did any of them have desserts or sweets in them? We also learned about dog handlers and their dogs walking point. Was that always nerve racking or after a lot of missions did you start to worry a little less? I remember that in Cracker all the guys got Thanksgiving dinner. Did you get to have that too? If so, was it better than the M.R.E.'s? I don't know if I ever would have been able to do what you did. We learned that about 4,000 dogs went to Vietnam and only about 200 came back. I know that if I had to leave my German Shepard Lab in a foreign country that I would be terribly upset. My uncle was also in the Vietnam War. He was in the Marines Bravo Company 1/26, and worked with a dog handler and male German shepherd. Looking for suspected caves on Hill 881 North. Which was controlled by the NVA. My uncle said, "It was hilly, hot, 10 clicks away and the dog and his handler walked point through 6ft elephant grass with our platoons behind him and on his flanks. About 6hrs into the search the dog got overheated and his handler had to carry him on his shoulders. Other Marines offered to help but the dog wasn't having any of it. It was probably close to 100 degrees, very mountainous, and the poor dog had a fur coat on." So thank you again for your service, and happy veterans day!

Sincerely,
Student 33

298 martinsburg rd
Mt vernon,oh 43050
November 7, 2016

Dear vietnam veterans ,

I have learned a lot about the vietnam war thanks to cracker .I have learned that 200 out of 4,000 dogs came back . Was your dog one of the 200? At my houses I have 4 dogs.Do you have any dogs?At my moms my dogs names are Eddy, Annabelle,and my newest jake. If so then what are your dogs names? What was you and your dog pose to do (like was your dog a scout ,sentry,or tracker dog.)?



I am thankful for you and your dog's .Its Amazing that that people care about other countries not just ours .I know some people don't even care for our country . My grandpa was in the vietnam war . He was the engineer for the air force now I know why my grandpa hasn't talked about it much . What do you do now ? do you remember your first mission?can you tell me about some of your missions? Can you tell me alittle about what your dog did?Once again thank you for caring and for sacrificing also happy veterans day!!

Sincerely
student 34

298 martinsburg Road,
Mt Vernon Oh,

43050,

November 8, 2016

Dear Vietnam Veteran,

Thank you for your service in Vietnam! You and your dog must have been the

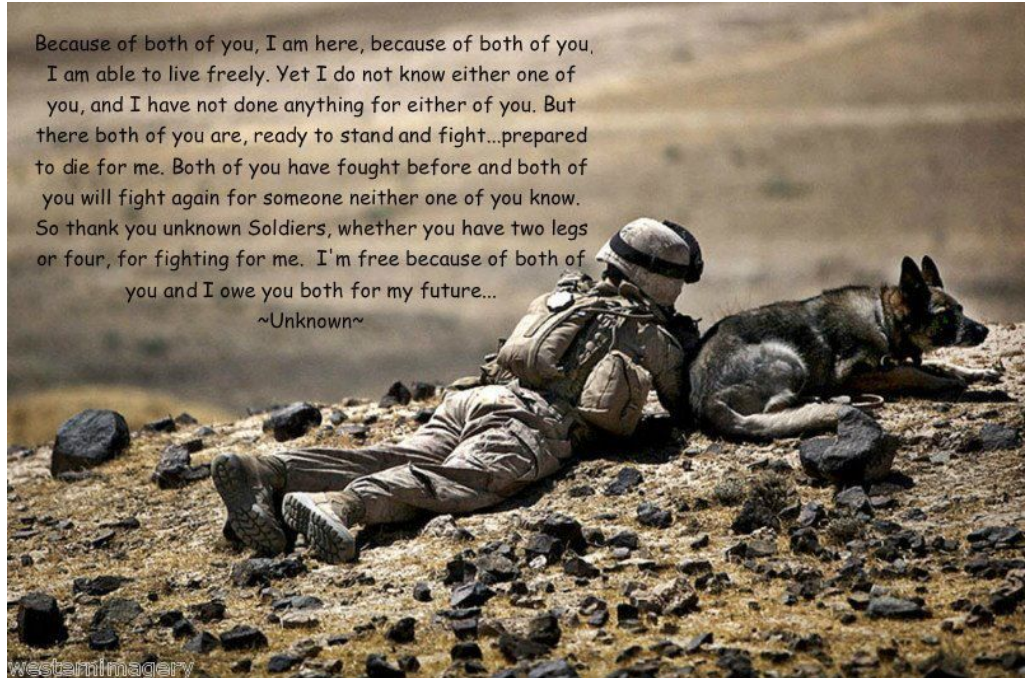
best team in
Vietnam! I
have a few
questions
about your dog
and you.

What kind of
dog did you
have? Was
they nice? I
bet he/she was
nice! I bet
your dog
fought hard to
protect you! I

learned that the doges saved a lot of people. Did your dog save your life? Was it hard
in Vietnam? You must be very brave. I know I could not go to Vietnam! I Bet you
must be proud of your dog. I really appreciate what you and your dog did. I will
never ever ever ever ever ever forget what you did in Vietnam. Even when I am old!

I learned when I read Cracker about all the different types of dogs. I learned
about the scout dogs, sentry dogs, and Tracker dogs! I also learned about MREs! Did
you have candy in your MREs? I ate an MRE before! It was yummy! What was
your favorite MRE? Mine would be spaghetti I like spaghetti.

Well, anyway, thank you so much for your service! Thank you for fighting and
everything you did! I will never forget what you did! Thank you!



Sincerely,

Kid 35

298 Martinsburg rd.
Mt. Vernon, OH 43050
November 8,2016

Dear vietnam Veterans,

I thank you all for everything you have done and I have questions about you. 3 questions out of many are what were your dog's personality and what was your some of the first missions you had to go on? My last question is how long were you in vietnam? I am happy to ask all of you these questions.

it's crazy how you would risk your life for your dog's and the vietnamese and i appreciate you all for doing that. Im sure your dogs were great and saved your life as well. My teacher started a program called W.A.G.S and it's a program for reading to dogs in a pound or vet to make them more adoptable. I am thankful to be able to send you all this message.

Sincerely,
Student 36

298 martinsburg road
Mt.Vernon,OH

4350

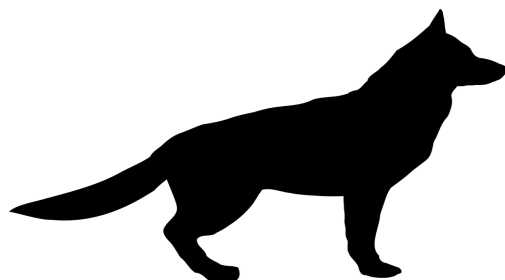
November 8,2016

Dear Vietnam veterans,

I have learned a lot about the Vietnam war, and what the dogs and their handlers did. I have learned that 4000 dogs went to vietnam but sadly only around 200 came back to the U.S.A. I especially appreciate How loyal and faithful dogs were too their handlers, and that they were credited to saving over 10,000 lives!!. Thats amazing to me. I also heard that you guys had Mri's, if possible could you tell me which ones were your favorites and least favorites. OH.... I also learned what the dogs could do, such as sniff out charlie, and trip wires. Those dogs unspeakably incredible there are no words to describe how amazing they are. I also learned what kind of dogs where there such as sentry dogs being the attack dogs,scout dogs sniffing the air for boobytraps. And tracker dogs sniffing for bombs

I would just love if you could tell me what your dog's name and ear tag. Also i would love to read about the amazing things your dogs did. THank you for serving our country. Also i would like you too know because i have joined a program called wags where i and a group of people read too dogs in the shelter.

Sincerely student 37



298 Martinsburg RD
Mt vernon OH, 43040
November 8, 2016

Dear Vietnam veterans,

Thank you for serving! I heard about how amazing your dogs were. I bet they were a great companion! I am happy for you that you got to meet your dog and love your dog! Thank you so much for what you did at vietnam! Just curious, how was your first mission? You should be very proud of what you did. You must of been really brave. Also, was your dog a sentry dog, a tracked dog, or a scout dog? I learned all about each role they played. The scout dog looks out for booby traps and trip wire, and bombs, and stuff like that. The Tracker dog was its nose to the ground searching! The sentry dog is an attack dog. Which one was your favorite? I really appreciate your position and how amazing you and your dogs were. Your dog must have saved tons of lives. I learned about everything you guys did! Did you like the C rations? Which one was your favorite? I bet the food wasn't too bad, right? Was it cool to be a dog handler? I wish you a very happy veterans day! Thank you for everything!



Sincerely,
Student 38

298 Martinsburg Rd.
Mt.Vernon OH 43050
November 8,2016

Dear Vietnam Veterans,

I bet life was rough in Vietnam I am proud of how all of you stuck in there you and your dog. You guys should give yourself a pat on the back.You guys survived thru deadly missions. What was your scariest mission? What was your dog like. Was one of your dogs the 200 that came back? Was there candy in your MRE? Was there basketball hoops in vietnam at your base? Was your dog medium, big, or small? In cracker there were girls serving food on Thanksgiving called Donut Dollies were they around when you went to Vietnam? My teacher started a program called wags and what that is it is a program where we read to dogs at the dog shelter.

Sincerely,
Student 39



Dear Vietnam Veterans,

I appreciate what you did for South Vietnam, and what your dog did too. I would like to know what kind of dog you worked with (sentry, tracker, and scout)? I know that sentry dogs attack, scout dogs watch for movement and smells in the air, and tracker dogs have their nose on the ground. What kind of stuff did you and your dog do in training? Did your dog do well in training? It seems to be a good bonding experience. In Cracker, Rick and Cracker bonded well in training. Some dogs, it is immediately. It took awhile for Rick and Cracker, but they got there. I would also like to know how your dogs did on missions? Once again, I really do appreciate what you and your dog did.

Sincerely,
Student #41

298 martens berg RD
Mt. vernon, OHIO 43050 11/8/16

Dear Vietnam Veterans,

I am writing this letter because i wanted to say thank you for being brave enough to go to vietnam to help south vietnam from becoming a communist nation. I would love to help in the army but I am not built for the army. What was you dog class (sentry, scout, etc). If you don't mind i have some questions for you. 1. Was your dog mean at first. 2. What was your best memory with your dog. 3. Do you have a dog at home if you have one and what was your breed during vietnam. What types of trapes did your dog find, if you know how many trapes did you find. Did you ever use STABO's to get out of some where, and were they fun.

Thank you sooo much for making a sacrifice to go to vietnam and helping them in the war, go U.S.A. Thank you for your time and I hope to hear back.



Thank you
Student #42



298 Martinsburg Rd.
Mt.Vernon,OH 43050
Nov 7, 2016

Dear Vietnam Veterans,

When our class read the book Cracker, I got really sucked in to the fact that you guys fought for another country and I just wanted to say thank you for everything. You really are appreciated for what you did. I know what you guys went threw and that your dogs saved millions of lives. I'm sure you had good times with them, and they were the best dogs in vietnam. I know that scout dogs were at the front, trying to sniff out anything unusual. Tracker dogs sniffed out vietcong on the ground, and sentry dogs attacked the vietcong. They were all very brave. They went longer than you did on your tour, and i'm sure they were very smart and lovable. Four-thousand dogs went and only two-hundred came back. I'm sure they were happy. If you can right back about your dog, that would be awesome.

Sincerely,
Student 43



298 Martinsburg

rd

Mount Vernon Ohio

43050

November 8,

2016

Dear Vietnam Veterans,

Thank you for everything you did at Vietnam. I can't thank you enough for what you did for another country. When we read, Cracker we learned a lot about scout dogs. The bond for you and your dog was amazing you could understand him/her and she understands you. That dog was why you woke up in the morning, and went to sleep at night. In Cracker it said, that you guys love your dogs you would stay up late with them, give them baths, and gave them treats (yea you know you did :)). Also I could not believe that at least 4000 dogs were in Vietnam and only like 200 came back I have two questions what was your dog's position sentry, scout, or tracker. And what was their name. Thanks for reading my letter and for everything you did.



Sincerely Student 44



298 Martinsburg rd
Mt. Vernon OH 43050
November 4, 2016

Dear Vietnam Veterans,

I would like to start this letter off by saying thank you for your service. Our teacher Mrs. Debolt told us that there were 4,000 dogs that went into the war and only about 200 that came back. I think that that is absurd that they would leave the dogs to die. Those were living breathing animals not equipment. I couldn't imagine how hard it must be to train the dogs. Especially when you feel that you are bearing the weight of the world on your shoulders. Also knowing that you are the one keeping everyone alive one mistake or wrong call and boom ambushed. Also if you were to careful than you would stop and there would just be monkeys then your platoon would get annoyed and you would be switched out. Once again I would like to thank you for your service and your time.

Sincerely,
Student #45

298 martinsburg RD
M.T. Vernon,OH 43050
November 8,2016

Dear vietnam veterans,

Thank you so much so much for your services. I along with my class think that you guys are amazing people. In class,we were learning about you. And I just want to thank you for all of the lives that you,and your dog did. We also learned that 4000 dogs went in but only 200 came back. We also learned from "Cracker" that the dog handlers were in the most danger. I would also like to thank you for being selfless and going to help another country. You men most likely saved someone in my family and I can't thank you enough for what you did. You might want to skip ahead two sentences if you don't want to hear the questions that I have. What type of training did you do? What encouraged you to go to be a dog handler? I hope you have a good veterans day.



Sincerely,

Student number 47

298 Martinsburg Rd
Mt Vernon, OH 43050
November 8, 2016

Dear Vietnam Veterans,

Thank you so much for serving our country in Vietnam. I was wondering if you had a sentry dog, a scout dog, or a tracker dog? And what breed dog did you have? I'm supposed to be thanking you but after reading Cracker I have a lot of questions about Vietnam. I know there were 4000 dogs that went to Vietnam and only 204 dogs came back to America.

I know you had a great bond with your dog because in Cracker it said that almost all the guys had a great bond with their dog. I know that you guys gave your dog treats even though you weren't supposed to. The War Dog Memorial looks awesome our teacher showed my class a picture of it. This is my way of saying I appreciate you and thanking you for everything you do.

Sincerely,
Student 48



298 Martinsburg Rd.
Mt. Vernon OH

43050

November 8, 2016

Dear Vietnam Veterans

Thank you so much for serving our country. In, *Cracker* I heard that the dogs in Vietnam saved 10,000 lives or more. I almost came to tears when we were reading it. It is the the best book of all time. Learning about the dogs and how cool and good they were in training and in Vietnam. You and your dog saved a lot of lives walking point. I can't believe 4,000 dogs went over to Vietnam and only a little over 200 hundred dogs came back. Without you guys going over to Vietnam, South Vietnam wouldn't have had a chance. In *Cracker* we also learned about punji pits, tripwires, and STABO harnesses those were the best harnesses is what i heard. Thanks so much for serving our country!!

Sincerely,
Student 49





298 Martinsburg Rd
Mt Vernon, OH 43050
November 8, 2016

Dear Vietnam Veterans,

Thank you so much for your service with your four legged companion beside you. I understand the relationship you had with your dog is so precious. This is just a short letter thanking you for serving in Vietnam and for South Vietnam. Through the time in Vietnam you were serving you've must've traveled to so many places but the only thing that kept you moving was your dog. Your dog must've saved many lives including yours. In class we've learned a lot about Vietnam and some stories about your guys dogs from having trouble to being one of the best dogs ever. I also heard that four-thousand dogs were sent to Vietnam, only two-hundred were sent back. The reason we started learning about this is because in class my teacher and the class started reading the book, Cracker, and now we're in love with Vietnam veterans and their dogs. Oh and before I go I have two questions like, What were your dogs names, and how good was the bond between you and your dog? Just wondering!!

Sincerely, Student 52

298 Martinsburg Rd
Mt.Vernon, OH 43050
11/8/16

Dear Vietnam Veterans,

Thank you so much for going to Vietnam that proves how strong you guys are to go and help another country to prevent them from becoming communist. I have some questions about your dog starting with how many lives did your dog save? I know it was a lot if it was a sentry dog, a scout dog, or tracker dog because of all the men in the platoon depending on your dog to lead them in the right direction. What is your dog's tattooed ear number? What type of dog did you have? Like a certain type of German Shepherd. How did your dog do during training? Like in *Cracker* she started to get better and better in training and didn't miss one in the field. I think it's crazy how 4,000 dogs were sent to Vietnam and only 200 were sent back and didn't get proper homes because they were too dangerous for families. I was also wondering what kind of things the dogs would signal for? What would they do if they could hear a tripwire in the wind? We learned about some of the booby traps the VC had set like the punji pits and tripwires we also learned about the STABO harness that you put on in the field and called in for extraction they would hook you up and take off. Thank you guys again for going to South Vietnam to try and stop the from becoming communist.



Sincerely,
Student 53

43050

289 Martinsburg Rd
Mt.Vernon,OH

November 8,2016

Dear Vietnam Veterans,

Hello Veterans my class read a book called Cracker(which you already know).I didn't like it very much but it made me realize what war was like,and I know that some Vets don't think that they are worthy of being thanked but they are.What was your dog's name?

I have a lot of questions but im only choose a few.So first I wanna know what kind of dog you worked with,and what kind of attitude Did your do have.Have you read the book Cracker if you have did you like it?I didn't like it I only liked the part where rick and Cracker were apart.Anyways thank you for your service.

Sincerely,

Student 54

298 Martinsburg rd
Mt. Vernon, Ohio 43050
November 7, 2016

Dear Vietnam Veterans,

I have some questions about Vietnam for you such as was your dog a Sentry dog, Tracker dog, or a Scout dog. If so what was your dog's name? What did you do with your dog? Was she really smart? If so what could she do that was eccentric that most dogs couldn't do? How much did you like your dog? We were reading the book Cracker in our class and we learned a lot about the Vietnam not as much as you guys of course but we learned about having to sniff out bombs and kill the Viet Cong (Charlie). We learned about dogs that have been remembered like Nemo he got his eye shot out and Luca, his leg got burnt and it was severe so they had to cut his leg off. I still can't believe that 4,000 dogs went there and only 200 dogs came back. I am so thankful that you guys were brave enough to go to Vietnam and risk your lives for us. And I am grateful that you guys went there and fought for our country. I know that people think that you guys suck but I'm sure that if they got to know you, you would be just no different than any other person. And I know that this doesn't mean anything coming from a twelve year old but you guys are **AWESOME!** (P.S. I know you guys snuck food for your dogs). Sincerely, 55