

Chiesa, Robert E (Bob), 1st Platoon

5 October 1941 - 18 August 1991

Last known address: Knoxville, IA

Robert E. Chiesa was born 5 Oct 1941 in Des Moines, IA to Leon Victor Chiesa and Vivian Margaret Shook. His father served with the 94th Naval Construction Battalion in Hawaii and Guam from 1943 to 1945. Bob was the oldest of three children. He had one brother and one sister.

Bob enlisted in the USMC 22 June 1960 at 19 years old. At one time he served with a Marine detachment on a Navy ship. He attended the University of Oklahoma and gained his commission through the NESEP program. He graduated on 4 June 1967 and was commissioned as a 2nd LT USMC with a regular commission 7 June 1967. He was a member of TBS Class 1-68 Alpha Company 1st Platoon. He then went to Flight School- Helicopter Pipeline in Pensacola, FL. He attended CH-53 training at Marine Corps Air Facility (MCAF) Tustin, CA. He then received orders for Vietnam, where he flew CH-53s out of Marble Mountain. In 1971 he was assigned to NAS Imperial Beach, CA and served as an exchange pilot with a Navy helicopter squadron. While in Southern CA, he purchased and raced a Formula V race car. Having medical issues he was grounded and medically discharged from the USMC on 1 May 1972. He returned to Iowa where he lived for many years. He passed away 18 Aug 1991 in Knoxville, IA at the age of 49.

USMC Resume:

The Basic School Class 1-68 Alpha Company, 1st Platoon, Jun-Nov 1967

Flight School- Helicopter Pipeline in Pensacola, FL.

CH-53 training at Marine Corps Air Facility (MCAF) Tustin, CA.

Vietnam: CH-53s out of Marble Mountain.

An exchange pilot with a Navy helicopter squadron, NAS Imperial Beach, CA: 1971

Personal Reflections about Bob Chiesa: