

Kozobarich, Larry L (Larry), 3rd Platoon

22 April 1945 - 13 June 2007

Resurrection Catholic Cemetery, Delaware, OH



Larry Kozobarich was born in Columbus Ohio on 22 April 1945 to a father who immigrated from Serbia and a mother who grew up in south Chicago speaking only Serbian. He attended Whetstone High School in Columbus where he became the city pole vault champion. He attended The Ohio State University, majoring in broadcast journalism, and married his high school sweetheart, Jeri.

Larry's patriotism led him to join the Marine Corps. He was commissioned with his graduation from Ohio State and joined TBS 1-68 in June of 1967. Upon graduation from Basic School he was sent to flight training at Pensacola, Florida. He made the decision to fly helicopters and flew both CH-46's and CH-53's. He was a squadron pilot at New River, North Carolina, both before and after his RVN deployment (HMM-162, MAG-26, MCAS). He went to Viet Nam in the fall of 1969 and was stationed at Da Nang (squadron pilot, HMM-263, MAG-16, 1st MAW). He served with the 34th Marine Amphibian Unit in the Mediterranean 17 September 1971 to 15 March 1972. With the rank of Captain, he was discharged from active duty on September 15, 1972.

Larry and his wife had two children: a son, Steven, was born in 1975 and a daughter, Christine, was born in 1978. Larry worked at a number of jobs over the years, in public broadcasting, insurance and construction. But throughout his life Larry was primarily a musician. He was the founder of Vatra Ziva Tamburitza Orchestra, playing the lead mandolin and singing. He worked to maintain the folk heritage of his Serbian ancestors, preserving old music and bringing joy to Serbian immigrants throughout the US and Canada. He followed his father and grandfather who were both professional musicians. Larry died 13 June 2007. A Marine guard was at the cemetery, as was a Serbian Orchestra, playing him to his final rest. He is buried in a Christian Orthodox cemetery in Columbus Ohio.

USMC Resume:

The Basic School Class 1-68 Alpha Company, 3rd Platoon, Jun-Nov 1967

NAS Pensacola, FL – helicopter pipeline.

MCAS New River, NC: HMM-162, MAG-26.

Marble Mountain, RVN: HMM-263, MAG-16, 1st MAW; Fall of 1969.

MCAS New River, NC: HMM-162, MAG-26.

Mediterranean: 34th Marine Amphibian Unit 17 Sep 1971 - 15 March 1972.

Discharged 15 Sep 1972

Personal Reflections about Larry Kozobarich: