

**Sergo, Richard Alan (Dick / Rich), 5th Platoon**

20 March 1944 - 8 November 2001

Arlington National Cemetery, VA



Al Woods (L)  
and Dick  
Sergo (R) @  
TBS 1967

Rich Sergo passed away on 8 Nov 2001, at the age of 57, of renal cell carcinoma in Naples, FL.

Richard Alan Sergo was born 20 Mar 1944 in Berwyn, IL to John Robert Sergo and Helen Julia Swad. Rich was one of three children with one brother, John Robert Sergo, Jr. and one sister. He attended Fenwick High School in Oak Park, Illinois.

A June 1967 graduate from Purdue University in Lafayette, Indiana, he received his BS and MS in Electrical Engineering. Rich was a NROTC midshipman with a Marine Corps option. Upon graduation he accepted a Regular commission as a USMC 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt and reported to the Officers Basic school (TBS) Class 1-68 Alpha Company, 5<sup>th</sup> Platoon.

Rich served one and a half tours in Vietnam. In addition to various assignments, he served as both an infantry platoon commander and company commander. He was discharged from active duty as a 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant on 15 Nov 1971.

Rich married and had two children, Jason Alan Sergo and Jaclyn Anne Sergo. He married a second time, and he and his wife, Margaret, had a daughter Alexandria.

“Upon being discharged from active duty, he worked as a design engineer for Litton Industries, General Electric and Exxon. He was Director of Software Development for Exxon Office Systems. Prior to co-founding his own company, he was the Chief Operating Officer of Eagle Computer and the Chief Executive Officer of Sierra Vista Technologies. He co-founded Sentinel System and Paradigm Computer Systems where he served as the Chief Executive Officer. He developed the architecture for the first real time industry standard compatible fault tolerant computer and was a recognized industry authority on fault tolerant computing. He was credited with establishing the criteria for a fault tolerant computer. He was active in the IEEE and served as the Chair Person of the IEEE Fault Tolerant Standards Committee.”

**USMC Resume:**

College 5 yrs - 1967

The Basic School - Quantico, VA Jun-Nov 1967

Vietnam Service 680109-700505; 3rd Recon Bn.

Airborne Course Okinawa 1968

MCV Recondo School Nha Trang RVN-1968

Basic Embarkation School Little Creek VA ;1969

Basic Staff Planning, Little Creek, VA 1967

Jungle Warfare School Ft. Sherman PC 1970

Purple Hearts x2

Combat Action Ribbon

Meritorious Unit Commendation

**Personal Reflections about Rich Sergo:**

**From Jack Sammons, 1 Feb 2014:** Rich Sergo was a great roommate: warm, friendly, very easy company, terrific sense of humor, and with a wide range of interests. We went to D.C. together a couple of times for movies, music, and bars, but I never had any contact with Rich after we left TBS, I'm sad to say, and didn't know his story. Thanks for reminding me of Rich; it's very nice to remember him.

**From Jules Seldon, 20 Mar 2015:** In early 1969 I was based at Dong Ha Combat Base. I ran into Jim Seagraves there and then one day General's Aide 1stLt Sanborn were touring with General Carney and we spoke. Anyway, Dong Ha was also the HQ of 3rd Recon Bn and my platoon assisted them with demolitions from time to time. One day I ran into Rich Sergo in 3rd Recon's area. He was dressed in clean utilities (which appeared to have been pressed) and was wearing gold jumpwings. He gave me one of those "look where I've been" looks, but we did not have time to chat. Years later I was reading a book on 3rd Recon Bn and Sergo's name was on the list of Marines and Corpsmen who had served in 'Nam with the Battalion.