

In Memory of
ROBERT C. THORNELL, SR.
October 9, 1949 to April 16, 2011

Robert Thornell was born on 10/9/49. He was in the Marines from 5/68 to 12/69. He was in Vietnam from 11/68 to 12/69 with Mike Company 3/7, 1st Marine Division. Thornell was with Mike Company 3/7 when Mike Company 3/7 pursued the enemy outside of Hill 10 in Quang Nam Province in Vietnam. Thornell's close Marine friend Bennye W. Cowley died on 2/23/69 during the battle. In this battle near Hill 10, the enemy endured countless casualties as a result of Mike Company 3/7's relentless efforts. Robert Thornell mourned the death of Bennye W. Cowley in Vietnam until the day Thornell himself died on Saturday, 4/16/11 from diseases caused by Agent Orange exposure while in Vietnam. While in Vietnam, Robert Thornell was a good example of Marine to Marine loyalty towards other Marines.

When Mike Company needed a killer team; Thornell's friend and squad leader, Gary Walker, would raise his hand. Thornell would then put his hand up with the thought, "not without me, Walker." Together Walker and Thornell exposed themselves to enemy fire concerned about each other, other Marines, and the Marine Corps' objective to kill the enemy. When Thornell raised his hand after Walker, Thornell thoroughly exemplified the love of one Marine towards another by saying to Walker, "Semper Fi"; Always Faithful.

