



Press Release

**Author of *Vietnam: No Regrets: One Soldier's Tour of Duty* to Appear at
Bonnell Ford in Winchester on Saturday, July Third**

***J. Richard Watkins on Hand from 11:00 to 2:00 to Discuss Experiences,
Answer Questions, and Sign Copies of His Book***

Winchester, MA – June 23, 2010 - Author J. Richard Watkins, U.S. Army, was a member of the “1/27th Wolfhounds”, 25th Infantry Division, in Vietnam from late 1969 through 1970. His book, [Vietnam: No Regrets](#), recounts his personal story and paints a vivid picture of the daily existence and struggles of those who wore the “boots on the ground” during the long conflict in Southeast Asia.

Watkins will be available for questions, discussion, and book signings from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM on July 3, 2010 at Bonnell Ford, 353 Cambridge St., Winchester, MA 01890, 888-874-9953.

Born and raised in Brockton, Massachusetts, Watkins enlisted in the Army after graduating high school in 1968. After his first year of active duty, most of which was spent in an office somewhere in the middle of Kansas, Watkins requested combat duty and spent the next year in Vietnam.

Kendra Carroll of [Apex Reviews](#) said of [Vietnam: No Regrets](#),

“In the 30+ years since its conclusion, countless volumes have been crafted regarding the Vietnam War - not to mention movies, television specials, and documentaries. Most of the written and visual media have done a commendable job of exploring the logistical blunders and other revealing aspects of the war itself; however, very few of them have given Vietnam the same empathic human touch as *Saving Private Ryan* so famously did for World War II.

“Throughout the pages of *Vietnam: No Regrets*, author and Vietnam veteran J. Richard Watkins steps directly in the gap and fills that void in standout fashion. A heart-wrenching memoir recounted in an unfiltered, no-holds-barred manner, “Vietnam: No Regrets” takes the reader straight into the heart of one of the most controversial extended episodes in our nation's history, painting the gruesome conflict in a graphic, vivid light - undeniably real and raw.”

For his single year of combat service, Watkins he was awarded 16 medals as part of the 25th Infantry Division. In addition to the standard medals awarded to all who served in Vietnam, Richard was personally awarded the [Vietnam Gallantry Cross](#), two [Army Commendation Medals](#), and four [Air Medals](#).

However, he is most proud of his earning the [Combat Infantry Badge](#), the U.S. Army combat service recognition decoration awarded to soldiers who personally fought in active ground combat while an assigned member of either an infantry or a Special Forces unit, of brigade size or smaller.

On Memorial Day 2010, Watkins was interviewed by Alex Ashlock on WBUR-FM radio. Click here to listen: <http://www.hereandnow.org/2010/05/book-excerpt-vietnam-no-regrets/#5> .

About J. Richard Watkins - <http://www.vietnamnr.com>

Following his year in Vietnam, Watkins was one of the lucky men to return home and settled again in Brockton – alive and as physically complete as he had been upon departure. He became self-employed and worked for the local government as a Constable until his retirement in 2001. He remains a Eucharistic Minister for his church and is a lifetime member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #697 and Commander of the American Legion Post #35.

Over the years Watkins' time in Vietnam - the people he met, the experiences that shaped him as a man, and ultimately, reflected throughout his life - became paramount to understanding who he is today. For inexplicable reasons, he felt compelled to put his story to paper. As he wrote, the goal became clear: to provide understanding to the people in his own life who couldn't know what it was like to be there. "Vietnam, No Regrets" is the culmination of those experiences. It chronicles the daily understanding, and coming to terms, of one serviceman over the course of his year in combat, on the killing fields of Vietnam.

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