

MEMORIAL DEDICATION
IN HONOR OF
LANCE CORPORAL RUSSELL M. DOBYNS, JR., US MARINE CORPS
KILLED IN ACTION 10 MAY 1969
VIETNAM

11:00 AM CHASTAIN PARK, ATLANTA, GEORGIA 21 MAY 1998

Patriotic Selections	Sutton Middle School Band (Formerly Dykes High School)
Welcome	J. Patrick Garland, Chairman, Atlanta Vietnam Veterans Business Association
Presentation of Colors	Marine Aircraft Group 42, NAS Atlanta
National Anthem	Sutton Middle School Band
Invocation	Reverend COL Ronald R. Baskin, US Army (Retired)
Introduction of Speaker	COL Robert L. McGuinn, USAR (Former CPT, USMC 3rd Marine Division)
Dedication Address	General Raymond G. Davis, US Marine Corps (Retired)
Unveiling of Memorial	AVVBA Members
Amazing Grace	Chattahoochee Pipes & Drums
Benediction	Reverend COL Ronald R. Baskin, US Army (Retired)
Salute and Taps	US Army Forces Command, Fort McPherson
Retirement of Colors	Marine Aircraft Group 42, NAS Atlanta

LANCE CORPORAL RUSSELL M. DOBYNS, JR.
COMPANY D, 1ST BATTALION, 3RD MARINES, 3RD MARINE DIVISION, US MARINE CORPS

Lance Corporal Russell Martin Dobyns, Jr. was born on 25 November 1946 in West Palm Beach, Florida. As the son of a career Air Force officer he attended schools in Florida, Athens, Greece and North Carolina before graduating from Dykes High School in Atlanta, Georgia in 1965. Following graduation he attended Georgia Institute of Technology prior to entering the United States Marine Corps on 15 January 1968. He completed training and received orders for Vietnam. He arrived in country on 7 July 1968 where he was assigned to Company D, 1st Marine Battalion, 3rd Marines, Third Marine Division.

The Division's tactical area of responsibility covered over 600 square miles in Northern I Corps. Units were spread from Cua Viet on the Gulf of Tonkin in the East, along the demilitarized zone in the North, to the Laotian border in the West and South, to the upper regions of the Ashau Valley. This mountainous and demanding terrain, with places like Khe Sanh, "The Rock Pile" and Con Thien would come to be known to all Marines as they know Guadalcanal, Iwo Jima, Bougainville and every beach where marines have dared to go.

LCPL Dobyns came to know this region and the enemy forces as only an infantryman could. He faced every grueling mission in a way that won him the respect and admiration of his fellow marines. During operation "Virginia Ridge" his unit moved in to defensive positions near the village of Cam Lo in Quang Tri Province and on 10 May 1969, during an intensive mortar and rocket barrage, LCPL Dobyns was killed.

Rusty Dobyns answered his country's call in the tradition of our finest patriots and made the ultimate sacrifice.

During one of the most trying periods in this country's history, Rusty's courage and selflessness reflect positively on his family, the United States Marine Corps and our country.

"TO THOSE WHO FIGHT FOR IT, LIFE HAS A FLAVOR THE PROTECTED NEVER KNOW."

This Dedication Ceremony is sponsored by The **Atlanta Vietnam Veterans Business Association (AVVBA)**, whose purpose is to honor those who served and those who gave their lives in the Vietnam War, and to promote a positive image of the Vietnam Veteran to the business community and the Public.

The Atlanta Vietnam Veterans Business Association wishes to thank the City of Atlanta, the Horseradish Grill and Accent Graphics for their special cooperation in this memorial dedication.

PAST MEMORIAL RECIPIENTS AND LOCATIONS

1997	MAJ JOSEPH A. BiSHOP, US ARMY	WOODWARD ACADEMY
1996	CPT MERRILL DALE REICH, JR, US ARMY	FIRST UNION PLAZA
1995	MAJOR PETER P. PITMAN, USAF	GEORGIA TECH QUADRANGLE
1994	CPL CHARLES H. BRITTIAN, JR. USMC	GA. WORLD CONGRESS CENTER EAST ENTRANCE
1993	1LT WILLIAM GAY, JR., US ARMY	SHEPHERD SPINAL CENTER
1992	CPL RICHARD F. SUTTER, USMC	UNDERGROUND ATLANTA
1991	WO FRANCES McDOWELL, JR. US ARMY	CONCOURSE A - HARTSFIELD INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
1990	PFC JOEL C. ROPER, US ARMY	CONCOURSE-TOWER COURTYARD
1989	CWO ROBERT N. SAULS, US ARMY	PEACHTREE CENTER COURTYARD
1988	1LT GARY C. JONES, US ARMY	CNN CENTER ATRIUM
1987	2LT JOHN L. FULLER, USMC	GALLERIA COMPLEX