

Our Vietnam Wars is now number one in military history and number four on the Vietnam War on Amazon.

Bill Brown served in Vietnam at Cam Rah Bay near the end of the war. He had been thinking about Vietnam for a while. While talking to book buyers online, Vietnam would come up in discussions. They encouraged him to write this book.

He felt the time was right. Many men were coming out of the woodwork. Many were wearing their hats now. Unfortunately, many were sick and dying.

The only thing young people know about the war is what they see in movies. Most people don't realize that there were many different wars, depending on when and where people served and what their jobs were.

He intended two things: that these be individual stories and that they supply pictures of men in uniform. His goal was to get 100 interviews.

The author had never hung out in veteran's groups. He called the VFW and American Legion and got a cold shoulder. Then he called Vietnam Vets of America and other Vietnam groups. He started attending meetings and told them what he was doing. Once he found the leaders of the groups, they would lead to others. After the interviews started, more and more men would open up.

He also talked to people he knew. This led him to others, including a couple of Australians. Toward the end, he assessed what he was missing: African Americans, women, and jet pilots. So he went and found them.

They all have stories. All were different but had certain sameness. The interview would start with "Where did they come from? What was their job? Where did they serve?" Many interviewees flunked out of college, served, and then came back and became A students with advanced degrees.

There were some surprises. Most of the people never talked about their experiences because no one ever asked them. Bill began this study knowing very little about the war. He was surprised about the number of people exposed to agent orange, up to 50%.

Some interviewees were in the jungle and three days later were home, a difficult transition. Many who avoided service seemed to have guilt. The personalities of the people were interesting. Some were wild, but when they opened up they all were very interesting people with interesting stories. He had to research the history of the war and various units to be sure that people were being honest with him.