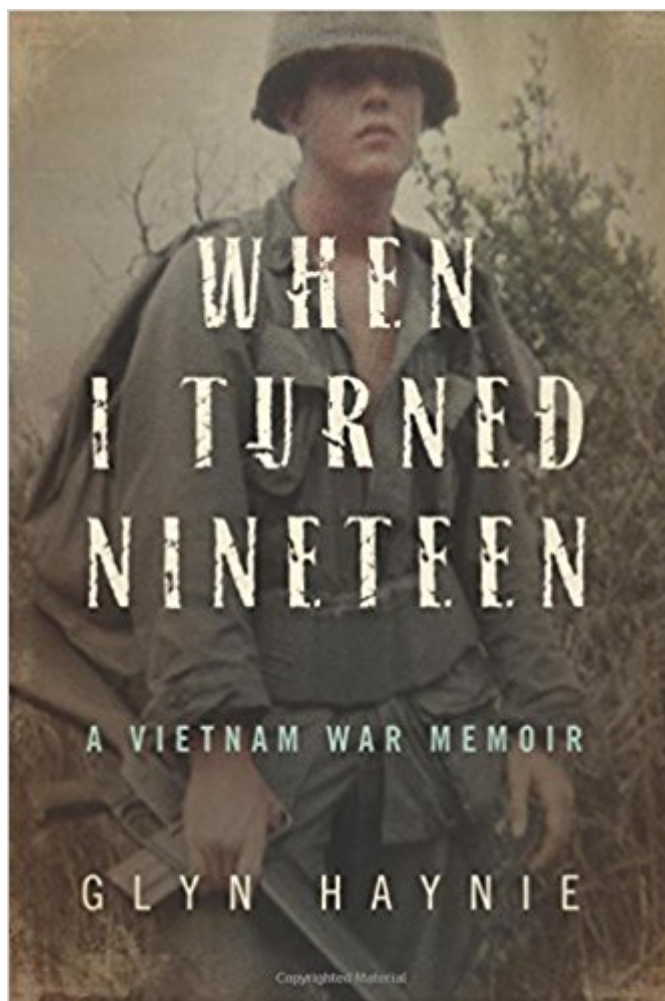


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# When I Turned Nineteen: A Vietnam War Memoir



## Synopsis

It's the year 1969. I was serving in the U.S. Army with my brothers of First Platoon Company A 3/1 11th Bde Americal (23rd Infantry) Division. We were average American sons, fathers, husbands, or brothers who'd enlisted or been drafted from all over the United States and who'd all come from different backgrounds. We came together and formed a brotherhood that will last through time. I share my experiences about weeks of boredom and minutes to hours of terror and surviving the heat, carrying a 60-pound rucksack, monsoons, a forest fire, a typhoon, building a firebase, fear, death and fighting the enemy while mentally, physically, and morally exhausted.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"... Mr. Haynie's writing style is very personal and humanizing; it is very compelling.

Complementing this personalized style is the fact that his brother accompanied him to Vietnam and that Glyn came from a military family, with a father who had served in both World War II and Vietnam.... At the same time, the style of the writing is coldly realistic. This account revealed more detail to me than I had ever read before about what it was like to be an infantryman in Vietnam. This realism will likely appeal to many readers. ..."Excerpts from an Editorial Review by 1106 Design, Phoenix, Arizona"

"We find *When I Turned Nineteen* to be an incredibly well written and moving memoir from the eyes of a young soldier. While it touches on the intense bursts of fear and the stresses of combat and the long stretches of boredom, it also exudes the kindness and brotherhood bonds that were made. Glyn writes with a heartfelt compassion as he talks of his observations of

war."Unattributed

"Be it a just war or an unpopular war, the effects are the same for the soldier fighting the war." ã Æ Through the years, I thought of my platoon brothers and wondered where they were and how they were doing. I was getting older, and I didn't want to forget them or the brothers who didn't come home. In April 2015, I created a small website listing the platoon members I could remember. I'd stayed in contact with Mike Dankert, Dusty Rhoades, and Chuck Council through the years and asked for their help to add names and dates. The platoon website grew from that day. Now I was on a mission. I started to write my long journey as a nineteen-year-old my country had sent to an unpopular war. Writing this book is the first time that I've talked in detail about my experiences with First Platoon in Vietnam. Over the past forty-seven years, I'd never discussed it with my brothers of First Platoon or even with my best friend Mike Dankert. And Mike was with me during it all. I don't know which is more difficult, reliving the events of 1969 as I wrote the book or sharing my story.

This is an easy read, one which you can the short sections as time permits--or just read thru the whole in a longer sitting. This was a very different war, and it shows. Yet I can empathize with many of the things he experienced. Thank you to the author for his service, and sorry it was so hard on you so early in your youth

This was a very good book, and further, it's an important thing for people to see what Vietnam vets gave, I am respectful and in awe of these vets. I particularly appreciated the efforts that Mr. Haynie went to, to provide the details of life there and the emotions that they experienced. This book does a very good job of communicating. It is well worth the read.

Amazing I was with the 1st Inf Div and Americal in 69-70 and for the life of me can not figure out how you can recall so much. I do not recall many of the details, but one of those is the memory of stepping out the jet upon arriving at first light were smell and heat. Like sticking you head into a 400 degree oven and not being able to breath. First thought was they will never get a chance to kill as I will just die on the spot. I put this book at the top of the numerous books I have read about Nam. Thank you and God Bless!

I believe that this book can provide an exciting and insightful window into a war and the people who

fought it that are still not well understood by many. I wholeheartedly recommend it to military buffs and casual readers alike. This book perfectly captures the sights, sounds, smells, tastes, and feel of being a grunt in 1969, but more importantly the boredom, terror, anger, cynicism, and comradery that the Vietnam War engendered. The work includes not only Glyn's personal memories and reflections, but also correspondence home to family and friends by other platoon members, which enhance the narrative. Reading Glyn's memoir provided me with an opportunity to remember places and events, but most importantly people, that I hadn't thought about in almost five decades. What a gift!

brothers. Glyn Haynie tells his remarkable story of his journey from being a naive teenager into a hardened fighting grunt in a compelling read. Haynie brings the reader with him as he fights to survive in a hostile jungle environment with the enemy killing many of his friends. I really enjoyed reading Glyn Haynie's story.

I read this book in one weekend. A very good memoir of one soldier's Vietnam combat tour. Glyn Haynie writes in a simple yet effective prose. On the surface his narrative style might seem clinical, but underneath there's a lot of emotion. I sincerely hope Haynie writes a follow up. At the end of "When I Turned Nineteen" it appears Haynie had left the Army; however, his bio states he retired in 1989. I'm assuming he rejoined the military at some point. It was soldiers like Haynie who rebuilt the Army from the ashes of Vietnam. I would really like to hear that story. On a personal note: I served in the 82nd ABN DIV from 1987-1991. At that time men like Haynie were nearing the end of their military careers as first sergeants and sergeant majors. They were a tough lot and turned boys into men. It wasn't until many decades later that I realized the impact they had on me.

Overall I liked this book and thought it was a very good read. The only problem I had and it's a small one is there are parts with letters from actual soldiers during the war that I thought was very cool. But after the letters at times the author would go to a different topic he was on before the letter started. Other than that the book was filled with plenty of stories that the author brought you right into, he made it so you knew how it was to be in the jungle describing the sights and smells Vietnam.

Glyn hit the nail on the head. A great read. Action packed, and tells it as it really was. You can almost feel as if you are walking along the jungle with Glyn and his Platoon. You feel the

excitement, emotion, boredom, and pain. Highly recommended by this old Marine

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