



## *Dennis Harman '62*

*Has been elected to membership in the*

*Beta Phi Hall of Honor*

*Class of 2011*

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In 1957, the only thing that could make freshman Dennis Harman's time at the University of Arizona even better was to become an active in the Sigma Chi Fraternity. Thrilled his pledge was accepted, his lifelong brotherhood began. During his college years, Brother Harman excelled in many areas including lettering on the wrestling team and bull riding on the rodeo team. Spending summers as a "fruit tramp," Brother Harman worked his way through school.

Eager to see the world and serve his country, upon graduation Dennis enlisted in the United States Marine Corps, was accepted in their Officer Training Program and commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant. Upon completion of many specialist combat training programs, he was assigned to Camp Pendleton, and then stationed in Okinawa where he was promoted to 1st Lieutenant. In 1965, Dennis was part of the first combat units sent to Viet Nam. Now all of his training and leadership skills would be tested over and over with many Marines' lives, including his own, depending on his judgment. During months of "search and destroy" missions, his battalion saw combat daily. In fact, during the first 8 months 35 % of his battalion was either "wounded in action or killed in action." It was at this time that Dennis was wounded from shrapnel from enemy mortars. Quickly treated for wounds, he returned to his unit and finished his first tour.

Promoted to Captain, Dennis returned to Viet Nam for a 2nd tour in 1966, 5 months after his first tour was completed. He was assigned as commander of a combat infantry rifle company operating along the DMZ, (demilitarized zone dividing North and South Viet Nam). The war had greatly intensified by this time. Months of intense daily combat finally resulted in him being seriously wounded for a second time. On more than one occasion, he performed extraordinary acts of bravery, heroism and decisiveness under fire at great personal risk which were a great source of inspiration to his Marines and resulted in many military citations and awards. His personal military awards include: The Silver Star for gallantry in action, Bronze Star w/combat V for valor, Navy Commendation Medal with combat V for valor, 2 Purple Hearts" and 10 more commendation medals and awards for gallantry in service. After 5 years in the Marine Corps, Dennis attended the Thunderbird Graduate School of International Management. Upon graduation, his first employer, Eco Lab, assigned him to their Brazil operation. Through his 29 years with Eco Lab, he was promoted to the level of Senior Vice President of Operations and worked across the globe in South America, Africa, Middle East and the Pacific Far East.

Since 1998, Dennis has been enjoying life as a luxury real estate broker in Scottsdale. Active in various real estate committees and associations along with selling luxury properties keeps him very busy.

Brother Harman says, "Looking back to my Sigma Chi days, the principles of friendship, integrity, close brotherhood and dedication not only laid the strong foundation for the Marine Corps but also have greatly enriched my life. I have been honored to be able to give back to Sigma Chi and to the University of Arizona."