

WARRIOR SPIRIT

Joseph Carney, in 1968 - 1970 at about 40 years old, was among the Stavrosian men that went to war in Vietnam for America.

Born in Kentucky in 1929 to a Stavrosian family, he was told the secret when he turned 20 years old in 1949. As he grew up it was a plan to see if Joseph was a Warrior Spirit. His first action in combat was during the Korean conflict as a Marine. He went by a different name then. Joseph had fought along what's now called the D.M.Z.. After Korea Joseph spent time in Burma until he took a job in Thailand working for the Thai Peoples Army fighting against Communist insurgents. Joseph returned to the States in 1960 to attend his Grandfathers funeral. Joseph moved to central Ohio working construction.

His Warrior Spirit couldn't be held down with just a job. By 1968 he could not sit quietly by with another war going on without him. Joseph signed on with the U.S. Army and entered the AmeriCal Division – 23rd Inf. 1 of the 6th Lite Arms Brigade. His Spirit now full, he was off to yet another part of the world. He would fight in another war. This was his way, his calling, his spirit. He lived out his need to fight against the Communist movement taking place around the world. He left Vietnam in 1971 with another honorable discharge.

His stand-down would not last. To fill the need that drove him to fight was still strong. Joseph went to Honduras to fight the Nicaraguan Sandinistas. In 1978 he was hired as an intelligence gatherer and forward observer by an American intelligence agency. Joseph ended his work there in 1983. He was now 54 years old and Joseph needed a rest.

In 1985 he was once again called on by men in the government to help train special units in gathering intelligence. This time in the mountains of Afghanistan. He trained these units until 1986 when he and these men were deployed to Pakistan where they were to enter into Afghanistan. Joseph was not going to be left behind. Their mission was to gather information and support the Afghan Resistance against the occupying Russian forces. Joseph completed his commitment and then returned home in 1989. At 60 years old, he came to Columbus, Ohio.

With most of the need to fight taken by time and pain he was ready to settle down. Joseph Carney married a local girl and had several children.

He once stated in an interview that he had never passed on his Stavrosian secret to his children. It was his wish that they not know so as not to carry that burden through their lives.

In 2020 Joseph celebrated his 91st birthday. It was held at a First Life Celebration on the shores of Alum Creek Lake.

Joseph now runs a small business just outside the city. He plans to expand over the next 10 years. He is now arranging to hold their 2021 First Life somewhere in Ohio. His challenge in the Pandemic era is to find an acceptable location to accommodate his family and friends without anyone understanding what's going on. It's the Stavrosian way.

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