# Kick The Moon

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| Dave Sturmer0:00:02 - 0:00:38 | I think three prongs that was sticking out of the ground, which is the M 16 hits, and you've only got, Oh, tread on one of those prongs and it jumps out of the ground generally is about waist high and your bum and cut you in half its a 360 degrees maiming device. It's not a designed Teo kill. Everybody is designed to Maine as much as possible and create hell in high water, which I found out |
| Neil Ashworth0:00:47 - 0:00:59 | July 20th, 1969. Apollo 11 became the first manned craft to land on the moon. While most of us were watching it on television, Sapper Dave Sturmer was on patrol in the jungle of Viet Nam |
| Dave Sturmer0:00:59 - 0:03:35 | It was on that day. I first learnt fear. The place was full of mine's. We sort of went up the lift, innit? Came up behind a great Blake, and he came up to tell us who has already told us that the Americans are on the moon and but he came up, tells that actually landed and walked on the moon, and you pulled my headphones off for So the Yanks are on the move. I think pretty well Everybody looked up early in the morning visits to say, Well, I can't see a thing He walked back, stepped over my gear way put together, put the mine detector together and he tried on the mine was being on often cutting off. I think it was 17 knows 18 off platoon immediately flattened. Fill my number One said to me You're bleeding from the back of the legs and pull me to ground I took one look at him and he was a mess. So a cz he had covered Hey, well, what I would have allowed my back, but he wore it all. His main concern was his testicles on DH. So it was a good friend because most guys with injured that's the first thing they checked it. Sze quite you can have your body blown off, but you always chicken that I took him back down the track and set him down, setting down any a couple of metres away from the second mine. Anderson, the medical officer, saw a sign in the tree. It said mine in Vietnamese, and he went over to take it off the tree on souvenir to which he trod on the second mine and that it didn't jump out of the ground like you normally would do. He went off underneath him on DH, Shoot him So he's fucked off a ziff. Someone's coming in the middle with a razor blade. So a small piece off the shrapnel from the second mine had Pierce straight through corporate needs his heart and killed him instantly. It took out three of the a combat engineer team that had come in to help and wounded. A couple of other guys, said also wounded Colonel Butler. |
| Dave Sturmer0:03:37 - 0:06:17 | So it just became The day became a bigger mess, as it went on. I have no reason to understand why they use Frank is the guy that detonated the first mine. But I'm sure they've got good reason for a couple of bees. I don't know. Eventually does a little of the truth get in the way of a good storey or whatever it is, you know. And so it was nice and It is nice that they had written it many years later. Fillon I went down to big where Frank was off belief that he was one of the people that set off the mine. And we assured him that No, he wasn't. It was definitely left in a Heinz and poor old Frank. Hey was still a mess. And for the amount of injuries, he had my gods and pieces in my back that I didn't even feel it. I was Theo way with choppers came in, maybe take us all out, and they wanted to find his body out. So we're that we went back to hospital. They patched us up. You know, I thought we'd done enough in hospital painting stains in recovery painting stands white in the hospital. And then I came back and they said, Right, you're going off with the cave up into the main towers was a big attack on Charlie's in one of Charlie's installations on the eighth of December. We're going to pull out thing. We've made a decision with the crew commander at that time as the lead vehicle. Which way we would go? He conferred with his troop commander off the column, the species and the city was down the right hand side of the track. So we push forward. We would have any gone well, maybe 50 metres from there. And we hit the first of three mines, 80 miles. The first one had gone off under the driver's hatch. It lifted the whole carrier up. |
| Dave Sturmer0:06:17 - 0:07:21 | Now, in the meantime, the white heat that came up the side of my side of the carrier had cut the rifle barrel off my family. It had picked the carrier up with such force. It moved it to the right and set it on the second mine. And to which that catapulted me forward, way forward, down the track, in front of everybody in my consciousness and I was in the air. I sort of been coming off the high board, assuming pool where you do it bomb. So I took in a ball in the hit right on the base of my spine. I landed right in the base of my spine, and I must admit, that hurt. It blew my clothes off, accepting from my boner started touching myself. See what was missing again. You just go straight to your nuts and go teo above me a time It was Peter Bradford in his helicopter who was bringing out an engineer combat team. Peter |
| Neil Ashworth0:07:21 - 0:07:30 | Bradford was a volunteer pilot who served a year in Vietnam, flying Eric Oi helicopters in a combat supply and medevac |
| Peter Bradford0:07:30 - 0:08:18 | ahs. We flared the land nor mighty shock wave hit the helicopter that we were flying. Wei had tripped another mind with the rotor wash and the debris that thiss mind threw up, hit the helicopter and did significant damage. However, we were uninjured on David had been literally catapulted off the top of the A P. C. I estimate, probably 15 20 metres down the track in front of the A P. C. And it was some time it took some time for the engineers to get a path to him to bring David back to where we were. He was severely burnt a ll His skin was exposed, his clothing rib literally blind from his from his body, |
| Dave Sturmer0:08:19 - 0:08:24 | with a strange recollection of people laughing at because I had no clothes on. But anyway, that Sze Australians were |
| Peter Bradford0:08:25 - 0:08:40 | he was winding that he was thirsty and to break the ice a little, I said, How about we feed you some Sydney water? So we cracked the top on this can and I remember leaning over him and lifting his head up to get him to drink some of this Sydney water. |
| Dave Sturmer0:08:42 - 0:09:48 | So they're encompasses The storey of how I first met Peter. Andre ever, ever got to say thank you for the drink water? Then it was back in hospital. I had exactly the same doctor who treated me the first time round, the young bloke. And he said, Corporal Sturmer, it's time for you to go home, Tio. Doing a good job. We'll get you ready. So I think you've had enough. So I was discharged in March. It was Madge May. That would be Yeah. I've never really got a chance to say thank you to Peter. And it did. It affected me for a long time. It was basically some 40 years later. I ran into some guys from Ninth Squadron Att. Government house and I asked them. But if they know off the incident and would they know who the pilot wass? Because I wanted to say thank you. They went back through there. Network on DH would have been a week later I got a phone call. He |
| Peter Bradford0:09:48 - 0:10:31 | had put a email out on the ninth Squadron, and that was the squad. And I flew with the F Number nine squadron and on our website. I was looking at the emails this particular day about a year ago on DH. This email said that Dave Sturmer was looking to make contact with the pilot who had fed him Sydney water, and I pointed out to my wife and I said, Have a look at this email. She looked at it and said, See, that's interesting. I said it was me that fed him the Sydney water. Now there's a mobile phone number that he'd had on this e mail, and I thought, I know my like the guy probably lives in Darwin or wherever. However, I immediately rang it just to see where he waas on DH Believed. Already lived in Hornsby. |
| Dave Sturmer0:10:31 - 0:11:22 | This's Peter Bradford. Yes, I was the one that offered you the drink water on DH. Well, I just want to say thank you. From that point on, we became good mates and close friends, and like Peter, still today is wonderful ability to solve. Still protect, then a Zay want to protect my people. He is very much the same in protecting the people he picks up so again that the bond is so strong. Strong I was only nine, produced by Neil Ashworth for Triple H, 100.1 of them by Clive Lane. |