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Klondike Playboy: A Marine Helicopter Pilot's Antics And Adventures From Parris Island To Viet Nam



You will go from laughing out loud to sharing the cockpit in Viet Nam with all hell breaking loose.

Pilots giving their best and then pulling stunts as outrageous as the doctors in M*A*S*H.



Synopsis

Klondike Playboy: A Marine Helicopter Pilot's Antics and Adventures from Parris Island to Viet Nam
John Boden

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Customer Reviews

The book, "Klondike Playboy" by who I remember as First Lieutenant John Boden, was enjoyed reading. I was an original member of the famous VMO-6 Squadron, in Vietnam, and will always read books from our old and famous, but now decommissioned squadron. I never really got to know very much about the pilots I took care of administratively, while a member of the squadron, so this too revealed something about a man who I once knew, and may have flown with in Vietnam as a member of the air crew. It's only taken over 50 years to do so. It was good reading about how a young man like the Lieutenant made it through life and the Marine Corps, the Vietnam War, and then back to America. With what I read, it is quite a story, among the many stories he told to compile his book. I believe it to be well written and could follow his writing of the story very well. Quite

different, however, from the usual books I've read by two other members of VMO-6 in Vietnam. Though there are stories about Vietnam within the book, there is no blood and gore, which I expected. I would recommend anyone to read the book that does not desire to read about the usual blood and gore of war. Thank you, Sir, for your service and for your work which I thoroughly enjoyed, both from the Marine stand-point, as well as a reader.

A romp through the eyes of a wizened pilot with stories to tell. If he was born in another time, the author would likely have been an intrepid explorer. A fun read.

I came across John Boden owing to his recent work improving the care of older people but this autobiography reveals the development of his character, principally during his time as a US Marine helicopter pilot during the Viet Nam war. 'Playboy' in the title is the ironic name given to pilots who had one of the most dangerous and responsible jobs directing evacuations and air strikes from the air. It does not glorify war but through its gritty, good humored narrative will challenge many people's assumptions about the men who fought there. The book is amusing and moving and it is a pity that very few young people will get to read it.

Unlike other novels that include stories about Viet Nam, Klondike Playboy is really about the life of one person and how his life decisions and experiences shaped who he is today. I found this more like a "coming of age" novel rather than a war memoir. I very much liked Klondike Playboy because of the unique glimpse it gave me into how one person coped with life, war, and life after war. But more importantly, there are broader life lessons in this book that made me reflect on the decisions and experiences I have had in my own life. I recommend it because it's fun, interesting, a quick read and not the usual book about the Viet Nam experience.

Interesting read. I know many of the places he refers to in Vietnam, having served two tours myself. I have met the author and know that he is a quality individual.

This book was interesting to me because I was there. I served with Marine Recon and these pilots saved my skin a few times. Easy read. Not the best writer I've ever read. If you have any connection to the Vietnam War you will probably enjoy it. I read everything I can about it, and this is not on the ten best list, but it was cheap, and to me, worth the price.

A narrative so real that you can smell, feel and experience what happens when a young man is transformed from a student to Marine, to Helicopter pilot to Combat leader so quickly that emotions race to keep up with reality.

John seems to have had skill and luck riding with him through the years. Also he made more good decisions than bad.

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