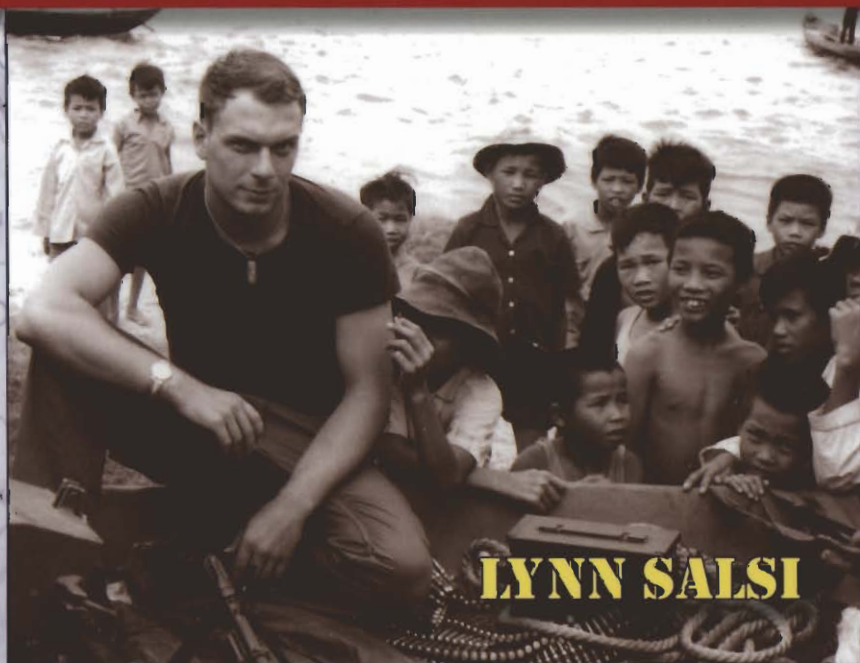


FIREFIGHT

ON VIETNAM BROWN WATER



LYNN SALSIS

AL LUPO, AN EIGHTEEN YEAR OLD COLLEGE FRESHMAN WITH A PASSION FOR FOOTBALL, lives in a small town near Pittsburgh. He is living his father's dream—playing football when he is drafted. His world falls apart as he loses his girlfriend and is deprived of his chance to please his father. To avoid serving in Vietnam, Al joins the Navy. Yet, he is ordered to serve on a fifty-foot SWIFT boat in the dangerous brown-water rivers of the Vietnam delta, which puts him in the middle of war. He is faced with learning new skills, excelling despite the disdain of officers for enlisted men, living through daily uncertainties, and surviving the war.

With historically accurate scenes and action, this is a different view of the Vietnam War. The story centers on one small crew of young men fighting for their country from a heavily-armed 50-foot aluminum boat in a primitive wilderness environment where rivers are the only roads.

WHAT READERS ARE SAYING ABOUT *FIREFIGHT ON VIETNAM BROWN WATER*

"Firefight puts the reader aboard a Swift boat and gives an accurate portrayal of the life of a sailor on this miniature Man O' War."

Raul Herrera, President, Swift Boat Sailors Association



"A great book! It will leave a lasting impression on those who read about life in the combat zone in Vietnam. Al Lupo is a fictional character, but the history is authentic. I know because I was there as an enlisted serving on a SWIFT. This story is about the sacrifices that were made by those who didn't come home and those who did. Salsi did a great job hitting on the major themes of the war. Until I read the book, I had forgotten the fear we lived in every day while we were on patrol and the effect it took on us while we were young. No one at home had a clue to what we really did over there. Therefore, the ending is superb. Ultimately, the real victims of the war were the ones who sacrificed the most for it."

William Douglas Kelley, Commander, USN-retired

"An amazing journey from high school to grown up while at war. Lupo grows from an anxious teen coping with an officer living with his crew to going on RandR in an exotic land — experiences his friends back in the "world" would never believe. Firefight gives a genuine feel for the temperaments of young men going to war."

David Wallace, OinC, PCFs 32 & 65 (Cat Lo 1969-70)

ISBN-13: 978-0-9706527-7-5
ISBN-10: 0-9706527-7-1



U.S. \$22.99 /Canada \$24.99

FORZA RENE A EDITIONS

©2008 by Lynn Sims Salsi

Original Photos ©2008 by Brian Sims Salsi

Cover design by Susan MacLeod

Cover Photos furnished by B.A.Salsi, Sr. and

U.S.Navy Archives

FIREFIGHT

ON VIETNAM BROWN WATER

LYNN SALSI

*For Larry,
Thank you for your
service.
Lynn Salsi
Babe Salsi*

FORZA RENEA
EDITIONS
usa



FORZA RENEAE EDITIONS

Copyright © 2008 by Lynn Sims Salsi

Original photos copyright © 2008 by Brian Sims Salsi

All rights reserved under International and Pan American Copyright Conventions. Published in the United States by Forza Renea Editions, Brown Summit, NC. Published in trade paper and hardcover.

No part of this book may be reproduced or reused in any manner whatsoever, including photocopying, recording, or by any information, storage, transmission, or retrieval system without written permission except in case of brief quotations embodied in critical articles and reviews. This is a work of fiction. Any similarities to actual events or involving persons living or dead are coincidental.

Library of Congress Catalog Card Number:

ISBN-13: 978-0-9706527-7-5 (hard cover)

ISBN-10: 0-9706527-7-1 (hard cover)

ISBN-13: 978-0-9706527-8-2 (soft cover)

ISBN-10: 0-9706527-8-X (soft cover)

Cover design by Susan MacLeod

Cover photos furnished by B.A.Salsi, Sr. and U.S. Navy Archives

Swift Boat drawing furnished by Tom L. Hovland, Captain, USN-Retired

Book design by Susan MacLeod

Anchor graphic and Carrier Lettering font courtesy of Ryland Sanders

Manufactured in the United States of America