



Cpl Steven Rutt was assigned to AFVN as a DJ  
at the Key Station in Saigon in 1969-1970.

The following is somewhat of a departure from the usual information  
posted upon learning of the passing of an AFVN member.

Message from Jerry Nelson, Subj: Steven Rutt, dated January 10, 2016

I search from time to time for AFVNs who have never surfaced over the years, one of which being Stephen F. Rutt. Steve was a DJ at AFVN and as I remember he had a late night program in 1970 which I remember as being called Sgt Pepper. He was a Marine and as I remember and is on our roster as a corporal. His time at AFVN should have mirrored Rick Fredrickson's time in 1969 to 1970.

In a search of Ancestry.com, I find a Stephen Frederick Rutt who was born in San Mateo, California on 7-21-48. I remembered Steve being from California. His last known address was listed as Arnold, California. A search of military records turns up an enlistment date in the Marines as 10-26-67, a return from overseas of 10-7-70, and a release date of 8-24-71. While in the service he is listed as receiving the Army Commendation medal for Achievement in June of 1970 and his Command Staff is listed as Office of Information. I can't remember whether the other 3 organizations were eligible for the Army Commendation Medal.


Five different indexes that I can find list a date of death for Stephen Frederick Rutt as 7-22-2005. From here I am reaching a dead end. I hate to report a death if I am not 100% sure but I have become convinced in my mind that this is our Steve Rutt.

Message from Bob Peetz, Subj: Steven Rutt, dated January 10, 2016

San Mateo Birth Records  
( [http://www.smcgs.org/sites/default/files/database\\_files/BirthIndex\\_a.pdf](http://www.smcgs.org/sites/default/files/database_files/BirthIndex_a.pdf) ) shows a Rutt, Stephan Frederick born on that date. Mother's maiden name Condon.  
San Mateo County Geological Society: <http://www.smcgs.org/research/databases>

Message from Larry Green, Subj: Steven Ruff, dated January 10, 2016

Since nobody really responded to the apparent death of our Steve Rutt, I thought I'd say a few words. Steve appreciated the production side of radio versus on-air. When Mike Sherman left, Steve took over the production of the weekly Panorama program, a four-hour production that ran on Saturday's. Many of the DJ's and TV folk contributed various 5-6



minute features on a variety of subjects. Then Steve, with help from Tony Lyons, Probably doesn't put together all of the segments for the "live" Panorama program. I used to steal material from Variety magazine and wrote and voiced a segment called "Panorama On Stage." I even interviewed the Sydney cast of HAIR and reported for Steve. When I came back for a second year, I was in the sports department, so there were reports from me called "Panorama On Sports". But if I remember correctly, when Steve left...Panorama died. If I could find one segment from that show, it would be the piece that Sadjak and I put together. It was the time when DJ's back home were speculating that Paul was dead. If some of you might remember, Pat had this weird thing about Kate Smith. Well, we found Kate's recordings, played her records backwards and attempted to prove that Paul was not dead. In fact, he was living in Kate's body. It was so stupid, but off the wall funny. I think it was the only Panorama segment that was re-played the following week. And when Pat got his late night talk show, I sent him a congratulatory telegram and told him that when Kate died, Paul got out. I remember when Pat and I played the tape for Steve for the first time. He was usually pretty reserved, but I thought he was going to split his gut laughing. So, that's my recollection of Steve Rutt. Probably doesn't mean much to anybody else, but I just thought I'd take the time to remember a friend.

Larry Green 68-70

**Message from Jordon St. John, Subj: Stephen Rutt,  
dated January 13, 2016**

This is sad to hear. I have occasionally searched for Steve without success. I was at the Saigon station in 1969 when Steve was there. He was a totally laid back, hippy sort of guy. I remember him doing something called the Sgt. Pepper Free Radio Hour and playing every acid-rock song he could find. Greatly appreciated knowing him. v/r, Jordan

**Message from Billy Williams, Subj: Stephen Rutt,  
dated January 13, 2016**

I remember Panorama running on Saturday afternoon in 1972. Kind of AFVN's short version of weekend Monitor (a la NBC).

**Message from Gary Bill, Subj: Stephen Rutt, dated January 13, 2016**

Stephen and I were in two different worlds when it came to music. My Sunrise in Saigon show was very MOR with Mathis, Kirby Stone 4, Sinatra, and Steve's world was as wild as you could get in those days. I remember asking him to voice a Hometown Salute for me, he did, but said if you can find another voice, have them do it. I later used Sgt. Larry Woods and Mike Sullivan for my Hometown Salutes....and speaking about Larry Woods, have we ever done a search for him?

Garry Brill - AFVN 69-70