

After Action Report
Rocky Mountain Airport
Collector Council of Colorado Car Show

This was a Face Book Post by one of our guests: (Shared by Bill Robie)

"In the Presence of Heroes"

I attended a local classic car show today. On display were the usual hot rods and classic restorations, a few local warbirds were there on the line, as well as an assortment of military vehicles ranging from WWII era JEEPS, to more modern wheeled military vehicles from the 1960's, to vehicles that I actually drove during my time in the Army, like the CUCV M1008/9 or the HMMWV (Humvee).

What really caught my attention from across the sea of classic cars, was the familiar hub and main rotor blades of the OH-6 Cayuse helicopter. I immediately made a beeline in that direction!

What I found parked next to the display trailer from the Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association, was a pristine condition OH-6A Scout Helicopter from the Vietnam era! Growing up in an aviation family, I had my plans set from an early age to be involved in aviation at some level when I grew up. As I became a teenager, my interest switched from fixed-wing aircraft, to rotary-wing aircraft. Watching movies like "Apocalypse Now" only fueled my interest in helicopters. Reading books about Army Aviation in Vietnam, books like "Low Level Hell: A Scout Pilot in the Big Red One" by Hugh L. Mills, Army Scout Pilot, sealed my fate! I set my sights on joining the Army after High School with one goal in mind, being an Aero Scout Helicopter Crew Chief!

Today I got to personally meet one of those Scout Pilots from Vietnam, Distinguished Flying Cross recipient Mr. Gary L. Worthy. Gary is the owner of the OH-6 you see here, and who also flew this same aircraft type in Vietnam as a 1st LT Aero Scout pilot with the Air Cavalry Troop of the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment.

It was certainly an honor to meet and speak extensively with Gary this morning, hearing his firsthand accounts from some of the missions he flew in Vietnam. Here I was, speaking in person, to one of the Vietnam Scout Pilots I had read so much about as a teenager. One of the heroes who inspired me to start my journey in aviation with the U.S. Army and particularly with Aero Scouts.

Thank you again Sir, for your service to our country. I hope to see you and your OH-6 back again soon in Colorado!

"Scouts Out"!

By Bill Lavery
US Army

THIS IS WHY WE DO IT!

And...this is how it played out:

Friday 8/5/2022:

Bill Bates, Rich Overstake, and I met Dick Thompson (the event organizer) at the airport on Friday afternoon to determine where the Museum and Helicopter would be located for the show. We also took that opportunity to meet Gary Worthy and his entourage at the Leprino (SP) Hangar at Jeffco after lunch. As an aside (We met a friend of mine while eating lunch and we took a tour of his hangar and his two helicopters). We got a call from Gary Worthy that the Loach would arrive within the hour. We went over to the Leprino Hangar and met up with Gary and his gang including 'Leprino' owner Larry, and waited for the arrival. Both Bill and Rich each took rides in the Loach after it arrived. Arrangement were made for the following morning for arrival time of the Loach and the Museum.

Saturday: 8/6/2022

Museum arrived at the airport at 06:45. Dennis Poirier was our Driver. We met up with the organizers and instituted plan B as Plan A was already partially occupied with another vendor. We compromised on an alternate spot which turned out to be a very good one. We had to allow room for the Museum, the Loach Helicopter and our 10X10 tent. The helicopter arrived at 07:20 and was met by Gary's team as well as Bill Bates, Gregg Mann and I. We all aided the movement of the Loach into it's static location in front of the Museum.

The following Docents were present: Bill Bates, Rich Overstake, Gregg Mann, Al Harinck, Carl and Barbara Cavalluzzi, Ben Prieb, John Mitchell, Bill Robie, Rick Beaver and Myself. Also present were Gary Worthy's team, Pilot Roddy Dill, and Jerry Hughes and their wives.

We were set up by 08:30. Antique Cars started arriving at 08:00. Guests started arriving by 09:00. Event was opened to the public at 10:00. Cars started departing by 13:30. We had the Museum packed up by 15:00 and ready for transport. Dennis arrived at 15:00 and hooked up the Trailer and departed.

I guesstimate that we had around 300 to 400 guests. It was a steady flow but no lined formed.

We gained one Member; Richard Norloff who join yesterday with dues paid.

One potential member pending: Carl Gillberg class 68/5 and 68/7. Not in VHPA Directory.

One of the Bennies, was that Bill Bates, Rich Overstake, Barbara Cavalluzi and Bill Robie all got to go for a ride and get some stick time in the OH-6 Loach. Roddy Dill was the pilot of the Loach.

That is all!

Your Pres.