MEET THE LEGEND - MEET THE AUTHOR

General Al Gray, USMC (Ret)
29th Commandant of the Marine Corps

Scott Laidig, Author
Marine Vietnam Veteran

Friday, Dec. 6, 11:30-1:30
Quantico Officer Club
Book Signing, Q&A, and No-host lunch
RSVP requested (not required): rsvp@semperfifund.org

Al Gray, Marine: The Early Years, 1950-1967
Hardbound Suggested Donation: $29.95 each
Paperback Suggested Donation: $19.95 each

In this first volume of the authorized Al Gray, Marine biography series, author, Scott Laidig gives a detailed account of Al Gray as a young sergeant in the Amphibious Reconnaissance Platoon through his tours with the artillery, the infantry, special operations, and intelligence units through 1967. This work is rich with personal and historical details, images, anecdotes and colorful episodes that bring this remarkable Marine’s experiences to life on the page.

General Al Gray, the 29th Commandant of the Marine Corps, served in that billet from 1987 until his retirement in 1991. Through the years he became an inspiring figure for Marines of all ranks, though not much is known of his early days as an enlisted Marine and young officer. In addition to putting together the early story of Al Gray, Marine, the author has retold the story of the Vietnam War and its time. Wanting to put Gray's time in Vietnam, and indeed the Marine Corps’ actions in Vietnam into proper context, Laidig presents a critique of the war, its leaders and the newsmen who covered it while also providing a different perspective on the South Vietnamese. His account is well-researched and fully referenced, and might lead the reader to investigate new materials emerging about the War that claimed over 56,000 American lives. Written in a style that promotes interest, this is a fascinating personal account of a Marine Corps legend.

All donation proceeds will directly benefit the Semper Fi Fund, a non-profit set up to provide immediate financial support for injured and critically ill members of the U.S. Armed Forces and their families. Since establishment in 2004, Semper Fi Fund has issued more than 65,000 grants totaling more than $83 million to over 10,600 of our heroes and their families.

The Semper Fi Fund and charitable beneficiaries of the event are not endorsed by the Department of Defense, U.S. Marine Corps, Marine Corps Base Quantico, Marine Corps Community Services.