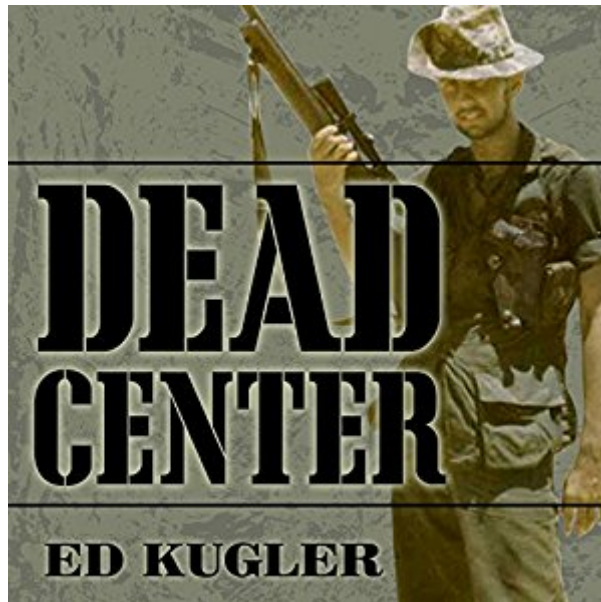


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# Dead Center: A Marine Sniper's Two-Year Odyssey In The Vietnam War



## Synopsis

Raw, straightforward, and powerful, Ed Kugler's account of his two years as a Marine scout-sniper in Vietnam vividly captures his experiences there - the good, the bad, and the ugly. After enlisting in the Marines at 17, then being wounded in Santo Domingo during the Dominican crisis, Kugler arrived in Vietnam in early 1966. As a new sniper with the 4th Marines, Kugler picked up bush skills while attached to 3d Force Recon Company, and then joined the grunts. To take advantage of that experience, he formed the Rogues, a five-sniper team that hunted in the Co Bi-Tham Tan Valley. His descriptions of long, tense waits, sudden deadly action, and countersniper ambushes are fascinating. In Dead Center, Kugler demonstrates the importance to a sniper of patience, marksmanship, bush skills, and guts - while underscoring exactly what a country demands of its youth when it sends them to war.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I served with Kug during 66-67, and had distanced myself from my brothers for purely personal reasons. I needed time to heal-almost 30 years. This is the first and only Viet Nam era book I have ever read and only then because it was written by Ed Kugler. The nicknames are somewhat strange, but I can understand why he might have to change real names. The book is real. It is certainly written from his point of view and written well. This book may enlighten a great many people. Thank you Kug.

I met Ed Kugler while installing a vinyl floor in his kitchen and noticed he had a little magnet on his refrigerator of the book cover. I found it quite amazing that this nice soft spoken teddy bear of a man was a marine sniper. He ended up giving me an autographed copy of the book and I thought that was awfully nice of him to do. I let the book sit for about 3 months only reading a couple of pages at a time. Once I started really getting into the book I was so immersed in the story of his marine tour that I had to remind myself that I met the guy in his house on a hill in Montana and that this is a true story...no B.S. Just the fact that he is not dead or missing limb's proves the Greek was right. The story's here are top notch and there's never a dull moment in the book. Ed's vivid recollection of events really helps someone that has never been in war really get a good idea what it was like and what kind of things you think about. Definitely recommend this to anyone over 15 years old for some education on how Vietnam was for this group of snipers.

I just recently finished reading this book and found it to be superbly written and I could hardly put it down it was so interesting. Ed Kugler's 2 year journey through the hell that was Vietnam depicts the environment so well that it is almost like you are there. I was very pleased with my purchase of the book, and I can honestly recommend it to anyone who wants to know of the hardships a U.S. Marine had to face in Vietnam, especially a Marine Sniper like Ed Kugler.

I am a former Marine who was at Parris Island, Platoon 364; M Co, 3rd Bn, 6th Marines, 2nd Marine Division and in Viet Nam at the same time as Ed Kugler. I find his writing excellent, the language and slang used by Marines authentic. It brought chills to my spine when I read this book. I was not a sniper, but I was a grunt Sgt with K Co, 3rd Bn, 7th Marines, 1st Marine division in Viet Nam from Jun 1967 to Jun 1968. I can assure you that his accounts of ambushes and routine life in Viet Nam are all too real.

How someone can write a review of this book that is bad I have no idea. It was completely awesome. Ed Kugler skips political 'correctness' and goes straight to the point. Raw, the uninhibited truth. The story of his two years in Vietnam is compelling. In the beginning of the book, he's an ordinary middle America kid. By the end of the book I feel Vietnam took a toll on his sanity. A lot of the book isn't really sniper warfare, but close to it. The focus is more on what he called 'Rouge' patrols, a group of 4-5 men, going out into the badlands and killing the enemy. The language, yes it is vulgar, but I think it captures the way he was back then. As others have wrote, I felt I knew Mr. Kugler at the end of his book, which I thought was great. Awesome read, couldn't put

it down!!

I have read all of the books by Tom Clancy, Dale Brown, Mark Barent, Layne Heath, Steven Coonts and many others. This book by Ed Kugler is not only the best book of this type that I have read, it is TRUE. I couldn't put it down. I found myself laughing out loud at one minute and nearly in tears the next. This is a must read for anyone that appreciates history, the Vietnam experience or just a good book!

Author has written a very good detailed account of what life was like in the Marines during his service. Written with cold hard truth mixed with his opinions of what was really happening. He has written one of the best books I have read. Even in the hell he was living in he was still able to find an unusual sense of humor in some of the things he seen. If you want a book with daily accounts of the reality of Vietnam this book is for you. There is not one of the "Superman" hero type books.

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