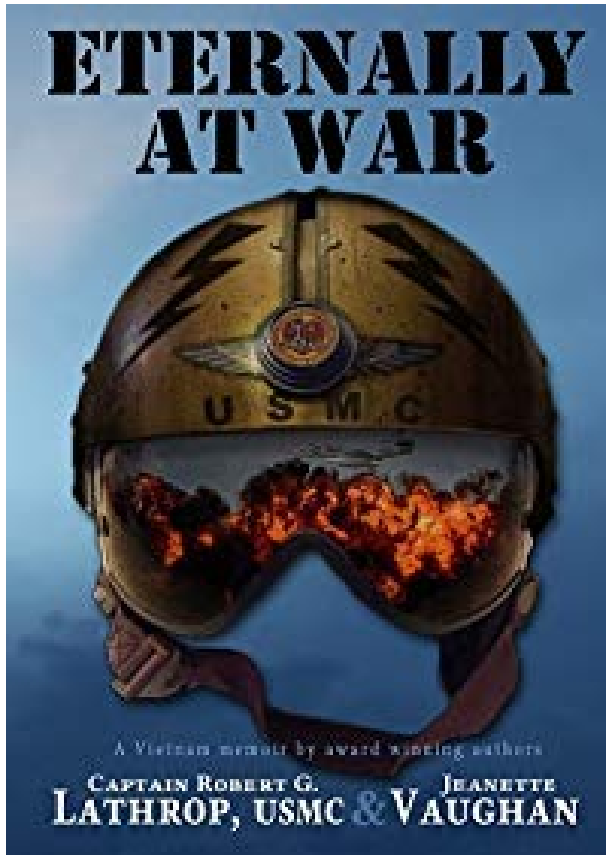


Eternally at War



Goodreads Rating:	4.00
Author:	Robert G. Lathrop
ISBN13:	9780989207874
ISBN10:	0989207870
Genre:	Uncategorized
Published:	September 9th 2016 by Ageview Press

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Vietnam. A USMC A-4 Skyhawk pilot. PTSD. He survived Vietnam, but would he survive its aftermath? The experiences of combat produce different memories by those whom have served. Some return as warriors, seemingly unscathed. With others, their life is never the same. The horrors of each mission come back to haunt them for years.

Ten years after returning from Vietnam as a two time decorated A-4 Skyhawk pilot, Captain Robert "Gene" Lathrop described war as hell. Flying the scooter as a part of VMA-311, he completed over 275 missions. His squadron completed 54,625 sorties dropping over 9 million tons of bombs. That record will never be broken. But the bomb damage assessment was steep for Captain Lathrop. The nightmares and emotional rage he experienced threatened to tear apart his family. To keep from unraveling, he sought a voice in the written word. This memoir serves as part of his mission to honor the men and women of the military. He believed veterans who return to peacetime should never feel eternally at war.