

*Manuscripts*  
*MSS Finding Aids*

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Western Kentucky University

*Year 2007*

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Bradley, Robert Michael, 1947-2006  
(MSS 138)

Manuscripts & Folklife Archives  
Western Kentucky University, [mssfa@wku.edu](mailto:mssfa@wku.edu)

Manuscripts  
Department of Library Special Collections  
Kentucky Building  
Western Kentucky University  
Bowling Green, KY 42101

*Descriptive Inventory*

**MSS 138 BRADLEY, Robert Michael, 1947-2006**

3 boxes, 33 folders, 344 items, 1852-2002

Gift of Robert Michael Bradley, Bowling Green, Kentucky, 1988-2002

***BIOGRAPHY***

Robert Michael "Mike" Bradley, son of Sue and Henry Bradley, Jr., was born on October 1, 1947, in Nashville, Tennessee. His family moved to Bowling Green, Kentucky, in 1952. Bradley attended T. C. Cherry Elementary School, Bowling Green Junior and High Schools and Western Kentucky University. He was drafted in January 1968, and sent to Fort Campbell, Kentucky, for basic training, then to Fort Polk, Louisiana, for advanced infantry training. Arriving in Vietnam on July 5, 1968, he was selected to be a part of the Blue Team of the First Air Cavalry Division located near An Khe. After a short time Bradley was assigned to the unit called the First of the Ninth. This special unit was responsible for engaging in every battle the division fought in, as well as reconnaissance and rescue missions. Bradley was injured twice in Vietnam, the first time from shrapnel and the second time when he tripped on an anti-personal land mine. After his discharge, Bradley returned home to become part owner of a Bowling Green funeral home that had been in his family for over one hundred years.

**BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTES**

The Collection.  
Interviews, March 28 and April 9, 2002.

## ***THE COLLECTION***

The collection chiefly consists of letters Mike wrote to his parents, by Robert's parents, Sue and Henry Bradley, after his arrival in Fort Campbell and throughout his stay in Vietnam. Also, three cassette tapes of interviews done with Mike concerning his ward experiences. Additionally, related materials include information about Agent Orange, First Cavalry, MIA's/POW's, and veterans issues. Some records of the Gerard-Gerard Funeral Home that was located in Bowling Green, are included too.

## ***SHELF LIST***

<b>BOX 1</b>	<b>BRADLEY, Robert Michael - Vietnamese Conflict</b>	<b>1966-2002</b>	<b>188 items</b>
Folder 1	Descriptive Inventory and data		
Folder 2	Selective Service Notification and Air Force papers	April 5, 1966 November 28, 1967	11 items
Folder 3	Henry and Sue Bradley - Letters From son Mike	January 1968 - December 1969	7 items
Folder 4	Henry and Sue Bradley - Letters from son Mike (including 1 <sup>st</sup> cavalry patch)	April 1, 1968 - December 30, 1968	36 items
Folder 5	Henry and Sue Bradley- Letters from son Mike	January 1, 1969 June 22, 1969, n.d.	22 items
Folder 6	Training notebooks	n.d.	2 items
Folder 7	Sue Bradley to Mike	November 19, 1968 - Sept. 27, 1969	4 items
Folder 8	Henry and Sue Bradley - Injury notice and greeting cards	August 2-16, 1968	7 items
Folder 9	Letters to parents about Purple Heart award, including newspaper article about award and Army special orders	March 15, 1968 - June 30, 1969	31 items

Folder 10	Sue Bradley - Calendar she kept	January 1968 - July 1969	3 items
Folder 11	Photographs	1969	25 items
Folder 12	Pocket Guide to Vietnam; Tips on VC/NVA Mines; Military ID packet; Combat Slang list	n.d.	5 items
Folder 13	Military debriefings and Vietnam maps	August 18, 1960 - June 24, 1969	7 items
Folder 14	Henry Bradley, Jr. - Letters to Congressman William Natcher	October 30, 1968 - December 20, 1969	5 items
Folder 15	Postcard from Dept. of the Army Graduation ceremony program plane ticket, Western Union telegram, etc.	July 1, 1966 - October 1, 1968	6 items
Folder 16	Robert Michael Bradley - Reminiscences of Vietnamese Conflict experiences	1968-1970	1 item
Folder 17	Henry and Robert Bradley - Letters from William Natcher and Veterans Administration	February 2-16, 1970	5 items
Folder 18	Interviews by Terrance "Chris" George of Robert Michael Bradley (3 cassette tapes)	March 28 and April 9, 2002	3 items
Folder 19	Vietnam Veterans - Warren County list	September 21, 1970	2 items
<b>BOX 2</b>	<b>Bradley, Robert Michael - Vietnamese Conflict</b>	<b>1986- 1991</b>	<b>86 items</b>
Folder 1	1 <sup>st</sup> Cavalry - Data	1968-1983; n.d.	12 items
Folder 2	Letter from Matt Brennan, concerning Bradley's entry in <i>Headhunters</i> - a publication by of First Cavalry members, etc	December 2, 1986 - August 30, 1987	7 items

Folder 3	Agent Orange - Data	April 1985- August 1991	29 items
Folder 4	MIA/POW- Data	May 21, 1991	5 items
Folder 5	Veterans issues - Newspaper clippings, magazine articles, etc.	March 8, 1988 - January 15, 1989	17 items
Folder 6	Vietnamese Conflict - Magazines	Fall 1986; June 1990	3 items
Folder 7	Miscellaneous items	n.d.	13 items
<b>BOX 3</b>	<b>Gerard - Bradley family papers</b>	<b>1852- 1950</b>	<b>70 items</b>
Folder 1	Henry W. Bradley - Letter from Henry M. Underwood	January 5, 1919	1 item
Folder 2	Gerard family - Legal documents including will, etc	October 2, 1852 - September 1, 1910	14 items
Folder 3	F. W. Gerard- Incoming letters concerning divorce decree	September 3, 1902 - January 1911	10 items
Folder 4	Warren County - Deeds	August 21, 1860 - February 25, 1950	14 items
Folder 5	Receipts - Miscellaneous	February 22, 1866 - May 3, 1932	29 items
Folder 6	National Casket Company book	n.d.	1 item
Folder 7 C1 - D2b #8	Henry W. Bradley - Cradle Roll certificate (Westminster Presbyterian Sunday School)	Sept. 28, 1927	1 item



Fort Riley Military Base, Louisiana B1  
 Funeral Homes - Bowling Green B3  
 Funeral Homes - Gerard - Gerard B3  
 Gerard and Gerard - Funeral Home B3  
 Gerard, Eugene, 1889-1929 B3  
 Gerard, Frank, 1848-1931 B3  
 Gerard, Fred Mossett, 1867-1932 B3  
 Gerard, John Claude, 1816-1899 B3  
 Gerard - Bradley Funeral Chapel B3  
 Gerard - Gerard Funeral Chapel B3  
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 Hopkinsville - Western State Mental Hospital B3,F1,3  
 Louisville and Nashville Railroad Company B3,F2  
 Louisville - Beechhurst Sanitarium B3,F3  
 Maps - Vietnamese Conflict B1,F13;B2,F3  
 Masons (fraternal organizations) - Bowling Green B3,F2  
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 Military life - Personal narratives B1,F16  
 Natcher, William Hutson, 1909-1994 B1,F17  
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 Regiments - Vietnamese Conflict, 1961-1975 - First Cavalry - Ninth Division B1,  
 F4,5,16,18;B2,F1,2  
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 Robert Michael (Mike) Bradley - Vietnamese Conflict, 1961-1975 - Photos, 1969  
 B1,F11  
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 Sanitarium - Beechhurst - Louisville B3,F3  
 Telephones B3,F2  
 Underwood, Henry Madison, 1794-1863 B3,F1  
 Underwood, Joseph Rogers, 1791-1876 B3,F3  
 United States Army - 9<sup>th</sup> Division of 1<sup>st</sup> Calvary B1,F4,5,16,18;B2,F1,2  
 United States Army - Security B1,F2  
 Vietnamese Conflict, 1961-1975 - Campaigns, battles, military actions - Tet Offensive,  
 1968 B1,F4;B2,F6  
 Vietnamese Conflict, 1961-1975 - Casualties B1,F4;B2,F4  
 Vietnamese Conflict, 1961-1975 - Chemical warfare B2,F1  
 Vietnamese Conflict, 1961-1975 - Combat Slang B1,F12  
 Vietnamese Conflict, 1961-1975 - Discharge B1,F2  
 Vietnamese Conflict, 1961-1975 - Draft B1,F3  
 Vietnamese Conflict, 1961-1975 - Maps B1,F13;B2, F3  
 Vietnamese Conflict, 1961-1975 - Medals, badges, decorations B1,F4,5,9  
 Vietnamese Conflict, 1961-1975 - Military Life - Photos B1,F11  
 Vietnamese Conflict, 1961-1975 - Medical Care B1  
 Vietnamese Conflict, 1961-1975 - Personal narratives B1,F16

Vietnamese Conflict, 1961-1975 - Photos B1,F11  
 Vietnamese Conflict, 1961-1975 - Prisoners of War and Missing in Action B1,F4,5,19,  
 Vietnamese Conflict, 1961-1975 - Public Opinion B2, F5  
 Vietnamese Conflict, 1961-1975 - Reminiscences B1,F16  
 Vietnamese Conflict, 1961-1975 - Security B1,F2  
 Vietnamese Conflict, 1961-1975 - Soldiers from Warren County B2,F2  
 Vietnamese Conflict, 1961-1975 - Tet Offensive 1968 B1,F4;B2, F6  
 Vietnamese Conflict, 1961-1975 - Travel Orders B1,F2  
 Warren County - Deeds B3,F4  
 Warren County - Vietnamese Conflict, 1961-1975 - Soldiers from B1,F19  
 Western Kentucky State Mental Hospital B3,F1,3  
 Widow - Social life and customs B3,F3

### ***CHRONOLOGICAL CARDS***

1852  
 1861-  
 1866-  
 1889-  
 1901-  
 1932-  
 1951-  
 1976-  
 2001-

### ***PHOTOGRAPH CARDS***

Bradley, Robert Michael, 1969 - Photos B1,F11  
 Vietnamese Conflict, 1961-1975 - Photos B1,F11

### ***SEE ALSO CARDS***

Coffins

See also

Caskets

Western Kentucky Asylum

See also

Western Kentucky State Mental Hospital;

Western State Hospital;

Western State Mental Hospital

Widowhood

See also

Widow - Social life and customs