NAMES & UNIT INFORMATION:

1) You can obtain morning rosters of the unit you were in by contacting the National Personnel Records Center. You must fill out a Standard Form 180 that can be downloaded from https://www.archives.gov/research/military/veterans, browse the site for forms and instructions. They will ask for a copy of your DD-214 Form Discharge Certificate along with the request. If you don't know the unit you were in, send for your DD-214 Discharge Form. As long as you're asking for info, you may as well request your 201 Personnel File that will have all the places you were, and request your medical records. Every GI should have a copy of these on hand anyway, for reference. Send the request to the St. Louis address listed.

Morning reports will have most of the names of the men you worked with. Ask for the dates six months before and after you were in service. There will be a fee for the reports. They are copied from microfilm. There should NOT be a fee for any personal records. They may suggest that you have local college students do the search for rosters due to the fact it does take a lot of time and they want to use that time for mostly personal searches. Tell them you wish to pay the fee, about \$12-\$15 per hour for morning reports.

There is also info at the site mentioned for sending "Blind" letters to buddies you wish to contact. The Veterans Administration also allows "Blind" letters, you can call your local VA and ask for three names at a time to see if your buddy is listed anywhere in the states.

Each man's name on the roster will have a service number or social security number listed after the name, in addition to rank, Military Occupation Specialty code (MOS), secondary MOS (job they may have been doing although they had a different MOS), and the dates ETS: for discharge, Eligible to Return: from overseas unless they extended, and SPED: date they were inducted or enlisted. There is also a race column: 1 = Caucasian, 2 = African American, 3-5 not in order ... American Indian, Hispanic, Puerto-Rican, 6 = Mexican.

Military MOS Numbers List: Army Military Occupational Specialties, Vietnam War Years (americanwarlibrary.com).

INTERNET PHONE BOOKS:

https://www.whitepages.com/: Fill in the boxes and go. If using a middle initial and no-results, try it w/o, then variations of the first or last name. As in all searching on the Internet, start with full names, then no middle initial, then Ed after Edward, then E for the first name. Write down or print out the e-mail numbers, Send "Blind" e-mails to all those who look like matches, look for middle initials in the addresses. Then search phone numbers and cold-call the phone numbers that look probable.

INTERNET SEARCH ENGINE:

Another source of searching can be found at http://www.google.com Use "Exact Phrase" mode at first, then "All-the words" mode. There are many other web search engines out there, but I've found this the best. Again, start with all the info typed in the search box, and then shorten it: John D. Doe Jr., John D. Doe, John Doe, J. Doe, J. Doe. Search anything you want in this way!

SERVICE NUMBERS:

These are a bit tougher, as they lead you to 3 to 12 states the Vets were from. The following list shows RA (Regular Army 3-Year vets) and US (2-Year Inductees)

RA	State
RA-10	HI, Panama, PR
RA-11	CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT
RA-12	DE, NJ, NY
RA-13	MD, PA, VA
RA-14	AL, FL, GA, MS, NC, SC, TN
RA-15	IN, OH, KY, WV
RA-16	IL, MI, WI
RA-17	CO, IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD, WY
RA-18	AR, LA, NM, OK, TX
RA-19	AK, AZ, CA, ID, MT, NV, OR, UT, WA
RA-67, RA-68	Issued by Army – from any state
RA-101	Hawaii
RA-102	Panama
RA-104	Puerto Rico

US	State
US-50	AK, HI, Panama, PR
US-51	CT, DE, MA, ME, NH, NJ, NY, RI, VT
US-52	IN, KY, MD, OH, PA, VA, WV
US-53	AL, FL, GA, MS, NC, SC, TN
US-54	AR, LA, NM, OK, TX
US-55	CO, IL, IA, KS, MI, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD, WI,
US-56	AZ, CA, ID, MT, NV, OR, UT, WA
US-63,	
	Not issued by states, issued by Army
US-68	
US-501	Panama, Puerto Rico
US-502	AK

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS:

The first three numbers indicate the ONE state the Vet was inducted or enlisted from. An up-dated list and explanation of these can be found and downloaded at the web site https://www.ssa.gov/employer/stateweb.htm. Morning Rosters will come from the National Personnel Records Center with service numbers in view, however the social security numbers will be written over w/black magic marker.

SSN	Location
001-003	New Hampshire
004-007	Maine
008-009	Vermont
010-034	Massachusetts
035-039	Rhode Island
040-049	Connecticut
050-134	New York
135-158	New Jersey
159-211	Pennsylvania
212-220	Maryland
221-222	Delaware
223-231	Virginia
232	North Carolina
232-236	West Virginia
237-246	Not Issued
247-251	South Carolina
252-260	Georgia
261-267	Florida
268-302	Ohio
303-317	Indiana
318-361	Illinois
362-386	Michigan

SSN	Location
387-399	Wisconsin
400-407	Kentucky
408-415	Tennessee
416-424	Alabama
425-428	Mississippi
429-432	Arkansas
433-439	Louisiana
440-448	Oklahoma
449-467	Texas
468-477	Minnesota
478-485	lowa
486-500	Missouri
501-502	North Dakota
503-504	South Dakota
505-508	Nebraska
509-515	Kansas
516-517	Montana
518-519	Idaho
520	Wyoming
521-524	Colorado
525,585	New Mexico
526-527	Arizona

SSN	Location
528-529	Utah
530,680	Nevada
531-539	Washington
540-544	Oregon
545-573	California
574	Alaska
575-576	Hawaii
577-579	District of Columbia
580	Virgin Islands
580-584	Puerto Rico
586	Guam
586	American Samoa
586	Philippine Islands
587-665	Not Issued
667-679	Not Issued
681-690	Not Issued
691-699	Not Issued
700-728	Railroad Board**
729-733	Enumeration at Entry
750-772	Not Issued

Officers are usually not listed on morning rosters, and are the hardest to find. I find most via orders men send in. Officers are more prone to NOT be in the states born in, enlisted and inducted men who have more of the blue-collar type jobs, I've found IN or near their original states.

COPIES OF ORDERS: Ask your association members to look for orders they brought back from overseas, some have. They list up to, and sometimes over, 100 vets.

ASK FOR HELP: Other than having a web site that can be surfed to, searching can be very time consuming.

COLD-CALLING: Prepare a short introduction to introduce yourself...with all the tele-marketer's calling these days, you'll soon notice a bit of an attitude from some. However, if you can get all the important info into your first or second sentence, you won't get a hang-up. KISS: Keep it Simple Stupid!..

Hello, is this the John Doe residence? They always reply cautiously,.. I'm looking for a John D. Doe that served with the (Unit) in the Vietnam War....they will reply.

About 99.9% of the vets I find are happy to be found...we are in fact, a unique brotherhood.

I use a phone/computer data sheet. Fill it out as you speak to the newly found member. Get all contact info, ask for names of others, old orders, etc. I always ask for nick-names used, and a name of a close buddy I could find for them.

POSTAL TIP:

Always write: "1st Class Mail, Change Service Requested" next to the address on the front of envelopes to veterans. This will improve your chances of receiving an address correction if they have moved within the last 12 months.