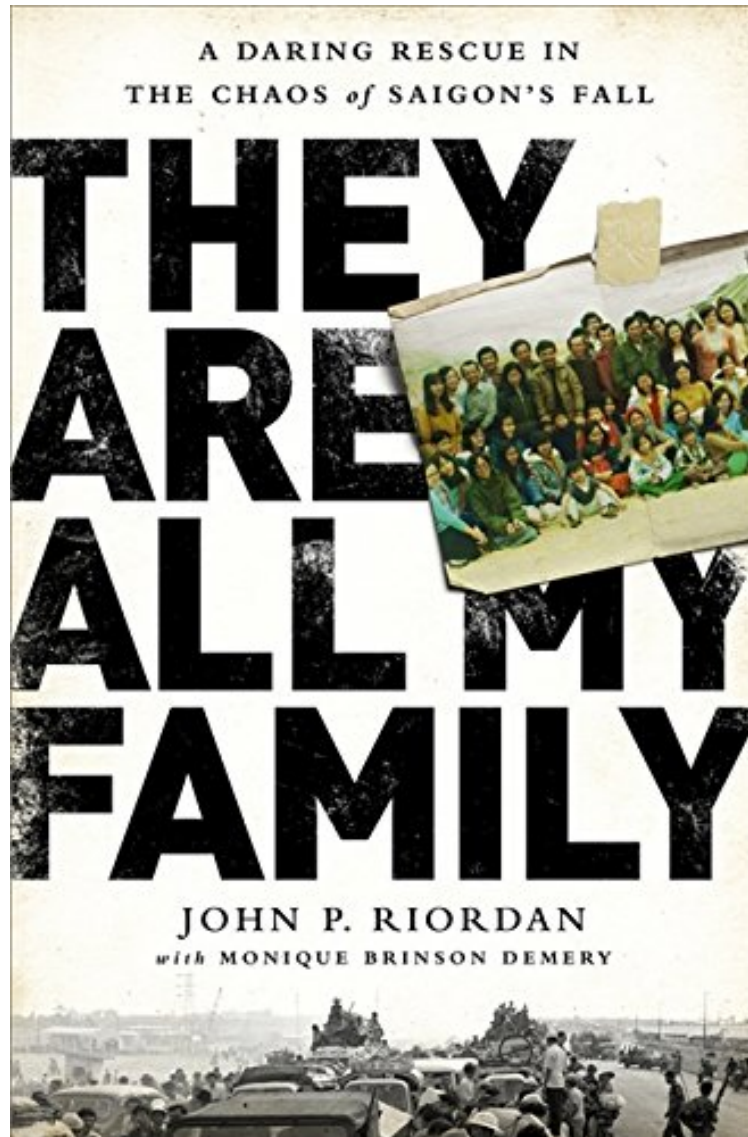


[Free] They Are All My Family: A Daring Rescue in the Chaos of Saigons Fall

They Are All My Family: A Daring Rescue in the Chaos of Saigons Fall

John P. Riordan

*ebooks / Download PDF / *ePub / DOC / audiobook*



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#841959 in Books 2015-04-07 2015-04-07Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.50 x 1.00 x 6.50l, .0 #File Name: 1610395034256 pages | File size: 64.Mb

John P. Riordan : They Are All My Family: A Daring Rescue in the Chaos of Saigons Fall before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised They Are All My Family: A Daring Rescue in the Chaos of Saigons Fall:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. April 30, 1975 - A Day of InfamyBy Dan FelthamBeautifully

written, researched and experienced. Riordan was a hero and has put together an important piece of history - The Fall of Saigon. It could be called 'Against All Odds'. Saigon was in undescrivable chaos. I'll admit to having only scanned the book. I didn't have to read it - I lived it. I was on Guam with a number of IBM World Trade managers who collectively failed to accomplish what one bank manager did accomplish. Riordan's IBM counterpart, the American Saigon manager for IBM Vietnam, went on vacation when he was needed to make decisions for his employees. A few IBM domestic employees who had worked in Vietnam a few years earlier were able, on their own, to fly into TSN Air Base, face the crowds, take buses and taxis, find their extended families and get them to safety, much like Riordan describes. However, IBM management from Japan and Hong Kong failed to do the same. The situation for IBM was further complicated by politics and business. The U.S. State Department promised to get 70 Vietnamese IBM families on a Saigon River barge, down the river and eventually to Guam refugee camps. However, Ambassador Graham Martin and his staff broke their promises and left IBM employees to suffer long work hours plus re-orientation camps. This tragedy is told in my non-fiction book's last chapter, 'The Last Phone Call'. I knew Saigon then, as I was a manager for 3 years of the separate American IBM Company assigned to working with the U.S. Military throughout Southeast Asia. I understand Riordan's book title - 'They Are All My Family'. So True! My story is told in "When Big Blue Went To War - The History of the IBM Corporation's Mission in Southeast Asia During the Vietnam War (1965 - 1975). It tells the history of computers and civilian contractors excelling in the war zone. Dan Feltham, Author of 0 people found the following review helpful. Informative and Inspiring By Customer John P. Riordan's story of finding the moral courage to rescue the staff of FNCB from South Vietnam, is inspiring and uplifting, while at the same time, haunting and sobering. Although John is a Vietnam veteran, he has not had to confront his personal convictions until he is ordered to close the Saigon branch of FNCB and evacuate, leaving his Vietnamese employees behind. He does not consider himself a hero but he finds that he cannot leave his employees to face the worst under Communist rule. There is much of cultural, historical and personal value in this book, and insight into the complications of international business and diplomatic relations. It is even more valuable, since it does not present as a political commentary, but as a view into the thoughts, reactions and improvisations of different characters caught in unforeseen circumstances. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. This book was recommended to me By Judy Chan This book was recommended to me. All I knew about the fall of Saigon were the images of people climbing fences and trying to board the helicopters. This book tells what was happening to the people just before the fall and after. A terrific story that I've passed on to my brother and asked him to read and then give to his daughter-in-law who is from Vietnam.

Published for the fortieth anniversary of the final days of the Vietnam War, this is the suspenseful and moving tale of how John Riordan, an assistant manager of Citibank's Saigon branch, devised a daring plan to save 106 Vietnamese from the dangers of the Communist takeover. Riordan who had served in the US Army after the Tet Offensive and had left the military behind for a career in international banking was not the type to take dramatic action, but once the North Vietnamese Army closed in on Saigon in April 1975 and it was clear that Riordan's Vietnamese colleagues and their families would be stranded in a city teetering on total collapse, he knew he could not leave them behind. Defying the objections of his superiors and going against the official policy of the United States, Riordan went back into Saigon to save them. In fifteen harrowing trips to Saigon's airport, he maneuvered through the bureaucratic shambles, claiming that the Vietnamese were his wife and scores of children. It was a ruse that, at times, veered close to failure, yet against all odds, the improbable plan succeeded. At great risk, the Vietnamese left their lives behind to start anew in the United States, and now John is known to his grateful Vietnamese colleagues and hundreds of their American descendants as Papa. *They Are All My Family* is a vivid narrative of one man's ingenious strategy which transformed a time of enormous peril into a display of extraordinary courage. Reflecting on those fateful days in this account, John Riordan's modest heroism provides a striking contrast to America's ignominious retreat from the decade of conflict.

"A nail-biting account of one man's quiet heroism in the face of impossible odds." - Kirkus s The book provides lots of details, replete with lots of reconstructed quotes, of Riordan's against-the-odds mission. And it has a string of happy endings a rare and good thing for a book about the American war in Vietnam. -VVA Veteran" John Riordan is a quiet, gentle man who defied his bosses and in many ways his own nature when he rescued 106 of his Vietnamese colleagues and their families in the closing days of South Vietnam's collapse. He did it in a plot so devious and ingenious, I doubt even Graham Greene could have thought it up. Now he is telling the story in a book masterfully written with verve and heart. So hats off to John Riordan for his astonishing act of derring-do and for writing a great book." -Lesley Stahl, correspondent for 60 Minutes" John Riordan has provided a moving testament to the redeeming power of human decency even in one of the darkest chapters of American history. Bravo for what he accomplished and for this riveting book." -Craig R. Whitney, former Vietnam bureau chief of The New York Times