

STEVEN RILEY HUFFSTUTLER

Class 33B-67

is honored on Panel 24W, Row 43 of
the Vietnam Veterans Memorial

Full Name: STEVEN RILEY HUFFSTUTLER
Wall Name: STEVEN R HUFFSTUTLER
Date of Birth: 4/28/1946
Date of Casualty: 5/18/1969
Home of Record: MENTONE
County of Record: SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY
State: CA
Branch of Service: ARMY
Rank: 1LT
Casualty Country: SOUTH VIETNAM
Casualty Province: PLEIKU



1LT Huffstutler served as a Forward Observer and Aerial Observer with 4th Infantry Division Artillery. Camp Enari was under a 122mm rocket attack for the second night in a row when 1LT Huffstutler was tasked to serve as an Aerial Observer in an OH-6A Cayuse Helicopter piloted by WO1 James P. Casey. After directing artillery fire to suppress the attack the aircraft was to return to Camp Enari, however night fell and the weather turned bad. The helicopter crashed in an effort to divert to Camp Holloway. WO1 Casey and 1Lt Huffstutler were killed instantly and the crew chief died one week later.

Fellow OCS Classmate and 9th Arty

I Served with B Battery 2/9 Arty 4ID 8-68 to 8-69. FO with C Company 2/35 Infantry in the Duc-Lap area. You won't be forgotten Buddy. We did our duty as we saw it.

Posted by: Donald Blankin
Relationship: We served together
February 2, 2007

To a member of the proud 9th FA

You are not forgotten Steve. Those of us who served with you in the 2d Bn, 9th FA, 4th ID honor you. God Bless. Jerry Orr, LTC, FA, S-3

Posted by: Jerry Orr
Relationship: Was my FO
July 3, 2002

From the wall-usa.com

I served with Lt Huffstutler as his radio operator. I was supposed to be on the helicopter with him the day he died. Needless to say a very lucky day for me and not such a lucky day for Lt Huffstutler. He was a good officer and good man. I still miss him!

Marc Kaplan
Served with Lt Huffstutler
October 3, 2000

Helicopter OH-6A 67-16557

Information on U.S. Army helicopter OH-6A tail number 67-16557

The Army purchased this helicopter 0169

Total flight hours at this point: 00000178

Date: 05/18/1969

Incident number: 69051899.KIA

Unit: DIV ART 4 INF

South Vietnam

UTM grid coordinates: ZH047398

Original source(s) and document(s) from which the incident was created or updated:

Defense Intelligence Agency Helicopter Loss database. Also: OPERA (Operations Report.)

Loss to Inventory

Crew Members:

G SP4 DAVENPORT JAMES MICHAEL KIA

P WO1 CASEY JAMES PATRICK KIA

OB 1LT HUFFSTUTLER STEVEN RILEY KIA

This record was last updated on 05/25/1998



Steven is buried at Desert Lawn Memorial Park Calimesa California Plot: VES 079-E

The following which pertains to the pilot WO1 James Patrick sheds more light on the incident that claimed the life of Steven Riley Huffstutler

Name: WO1 James Patrick Casey

Status: Killed In Action from an incident on 05/18/1969 while performing the duty of Pilot.

Age at death: 22.9

Date of Birth: 06/06/1946

Home City: Watertown, MA

Service: AV branch of the reserve component of the U.S. Army.

Unit: DIV ARTY 4 INF

Major organization: 4th Infantry Division

Flight class: 68-519/68-35

Service: AV branch of the U.S. Army.

The Wall location: 24W-037

Short Summary: Camp Enari under 122 rocket attack for 2nd night. WX & night caused diversion to Camp Holloway, crashed with 1LT A/O & Crew Chief.

Aircraft: OH-6A tail number 67-16557

Call sign: Redleg

Service number: W3162410

Country: South Vietnam

MOS: 100B = Utility/Observation Helicopter Pilot

Primary cause: A/C Accident WX

Major attributing cause: aircraft connected not at sea

Compliment cause: weapons

Vehicle involved: helicopter

Position in vehicle: pilot

Started Tour: 01/10/1969

"Official" listing: helicopter air casualty - pilot

Location: Pleiku Province II Corps.

Additional information about this casualty:

Information from 9th VHPA reunion on James Patrick Casey: Camp Enari was under a 122 mm rocket attack for the second night in a row when WO1 James Patrick Casey scrambled with a 1LT aerial observer and a SP5 crew chief to direct artillery fire to suppress the attack. Casey was to return to Camp Enari, however night fell and the weather turned bad, so he tried to divert to Camp Holloway but crashed in route. Casey and the A/O were killed immediately and the Crew Chief died one week later. This is the same mission that CW2 Beck was killed on. I was Divarty Surgeon at the time Mr. Casey was killed. I recall that the commander, Col. Virgil "Bill" Williams, had plans to recommend Mr. Casey be commissioned posthumously to Lieutenant. I don't know if that happened. Casey was a good man. John C. Bailey, M.D.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS 4TH INFANTRY DIVISION
APO San Francisco 96262

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 127

17 January 1969

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL FOR HEROISM

1. TC 320. The following AWARDS are announced:

HUFFSTUTLER, STEVEN R 05428285 (570-60-0545) FIRST LIEUTENANT ARTILLERY
United States Army, Co A, 1st Bn, 35th Inf Div, APO 96355

Awarded: Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device

Date action: 13 November 1968

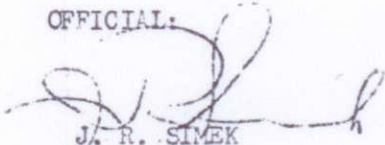
Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: For heroism in connection with military operations against an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Huffstutler distinguished himself while serving as a Forward Observer with Battery C, 2d Battalion, 9th Artillery, 4th Infantry Division. On 13 November 1968, Lieutenant Huffstutler was attached to Company A, 1st Battalion, 35th Infantry, when it came under intense enemy mortar, rocket and small arms fire. Leaving the safety of his position, Lieutenant Huffstutler moved through the enemy fire and reorganized a platoon that had suffered heavy casualties. Displaying great tactical knowledge, Lieutenant Huffstutler was instrumental in the defenses of the perimeter and the capture of an enemy soldier. First Lieutenant Huffstutler's courageous acts, outstanding leadership and exemplary devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit and the United States Army.

Authority: By direction of the President under the provisions of Executive Order 11046, 24 August 1962.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

OFFICIAL:


J. R. SIMEK
CPT, AGC
Asst AG

HERBERT J. McCRYSTAL, JR.
Colonel, GS
Chief of Staff

DISTRIBUTION:

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5 1st Bn, 35th Inf
2 CG, USARV, ATTN: AVHAG, APO 96375

SPECIAL DISTRIBUTION:

1 TAGO, DA, ATTN: AGFF-F



CITATION

BY DIRECTION OF THE PRESIDENT
THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL
(FIRST OAK LEAF CLUSTER)

IS PRESENTED POSTHUMOUSLY TO

FIRST LIEUTENANT STEVEN R. HUFFSTUTLER

FOR DISTINGUISHING HIMSELF BY OUTSTANDING MERITORIOUS SERVICE IN CONNECTION WITH GROUND OPERATIONS AGAINST A HOSTILE FORCE IN THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM DURING THE PERIOD 28 AUGUST 1968 TO 18 MAY 1969.

THROUGH HIS UNTIRING EFFORTS AND PROFESSIONAL ABILITY, HE CONSISTENTLY OBTAINED OUTSTANDING RESULTS. HE WAS QUICK TO GRASP THE IMPLICATIONS OF NEW PROBLEMS WITH WHICH HE WAS FACED AS A RESULT OF THE EVER CHANGING SITUATIONS INHERENT IN A COUNTERINSURGENCY OPERATION AND TO FIND WAYS AND MEANS TO SOLVE THOSE PROBLEMS. THE ENERGETIC APPLICATION OF HIS EXTENSIVE KNOWLEDGE HAS MATERIALLY CONTRIBUTED TO THE EFFORTS OF THE UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM TO ASSIST THAT COUNTRY IN RIDDING ITSELF OF THE COMMUNIST THREAT TO ITS FREEDOM.

HIS INITIATIVE, ZEAL, SOUND JUDGMENT AND DEVOTION TO DUTY HAVE BEEN IN THE HIGHEST TRADITION OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY AND REFLECT GREAT CREDIT ON HIM AND ON THE MILITARY SERVICE.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS 4TH INFANTRY DIVISION
APO San Francisco 96262

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 3373

25 June 1969

AWARD OF THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS

1. TO 320. The following AWARD is announced posthumously:

HUFFSTUTLER, STEVEN R (570-60-0545) FIRST LIEUTENANT FIELD
ARTILLERY United States Army, HMB, 4th Inf DIVARTY, APO 96262

Awarded: Distinguished Flying Cross

Date action: 18 May 1969


Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reasons: For heroism while participating in aerial flight evidenced by voluntary actions above and beyond the call of duty in the Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Huffstutler distinguished himself while serving as an Air Observer with Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 4th Infantry Division Artillery. On 18 May 1969, Camp Enari, the 4th Infantry Division Base Camp came under enemy rocket and mortar attack. With complete disregard for his personal safety, First Lieutenant Huffstutler volunteered to fly on a mission to seek out the enemy rocket and mortar positions. During the mission an aerial mishap caused First Lieutenant Huffstutler's craft to crash into the side of a mountain fatally injuring him. First Lieutenant Huffstutler's courageous actions, outstanding performance and exemplary devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit and the United States Army.

Authority: By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress, approved 2 July 1926.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

OFFICIAL:



J. R. SLEEK
CPT, 100
Asst.

GORDON J. DUQUEMIN
Colonel, GS
Chief of Staff

DISTRIBUTION:

10 AVLDH-AGD
2 AVLDH-ASD
5 4th Inf DIVARTY
2 CG, USARV, ATTN: AVHAG_PD
APO 96375

SPECIAL DISTRIBUTION:

1 TAGO, DA, ATTN: ACPB-AC
2 USA Pers Serv Support Center
ATTN: ACPB, Fort Benjamin
Harrison, Indiana 46247



CITATION

BY DIRECTION OF THE PRESIDENT
THE AIR MEDAL

IS PRESENTED POSTHUMOUSLY TO

FIRST LIEUTENANT STEVEN R. HUFFSTUTLER

FOR DISTINGUISHING HIMSELF BY MERITORIOUS ACHIEVEMENT WHILE PARTICIPATING IN SUSTAINED AERIAL FLIGHT IN SUPPORT OF COMBAT GROUND FORCES OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM DURING THE PERIOD 1 FEBRUARY 1969 TO 15 FEBRUARY 1969.

DURING THIS TIME HE ACTIVELY PARTICIPATED IN MORE THAN TWENTY - FIVE AERIAL MISSIONS OVER HOSTILE TERRITORY IN SUPPORT OF COUNTERINSURGENCY OPERATIONS. DURING ALL OF THESE MISSIONS HE DISPLAYED THE HIGHEST ORDER OF AIR DISCIPLINE AND ACTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE BEST TRADITIONS OF THE SERVICE. BY HIS DETERMINATION TO ACCOMPLISH HIS MISSION IN SPITE OF THE HAZARDS INHERENT IN REPEATED AERIAL FLIGHTS OVER HOSTILE TERRITORY AND BY HIS OUTSTANDING DEGREE OF PROFESSIONALISM AND DEVOTION TO DUTY, HE HAS BROUGHT CREDIT UPON HIMSELF, HIS ORGANIZATION, AND THE MILITARY SERVICE.



CITATION

BY DIRECTION OF THE PRESIDENT
THE AIR MEDAL
(FIRST AND SECOND OAK LEAF CLUSTERS)

IS PRESENTED POSTHUMOUSLY TO

FIRST LIEUTENANT STEVEN R. HUFFSTUTLER

FOR DISTINGUISHING HIMSELF BY MERITORIOUS ACHIEVEMENT WHILE PARTICIPATING IN SUSTAINED AERIAL FLIGHT IN SUPPORT OF COMBAT GROUND FORCES OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM DURING THE PERIOD 17 FEBRUARY 1969 TO 18 MAY 1969.

DURING THIS TIME HE ACTIVELY PARTICIPATED IN MORE THAN TWENTY - FIVE AERIAL MISSIONS OVER HOSTILE TERRITORY IN SUPPORT OF COUNTERINSURGENCY OPERATIONS. DURING ALL OF THESE MISSIONS HE DISPLAYED THE HIGHEST ORDER OF AIR DISCIPLINE AND ACTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE BEST TRADITIONS OF THE SERVICE. BY HIS DETERMINATION TO ACCOMPLISH HIS MISSION IN SPITE OF THE HAZARDS INHERENT IN REPEATED AERIAL FLIGHTS OVER HOSTILE TERRITORY AND BY HIS OUTSTANDING DEGREE OF PROFESSIONALISM AND DEVOTION TO DUTY, HE HAS BROUGHT CREDIT UPON HIMSELF, HIS ORGANIZATION, AND THE MILITARY SERVICE.

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
372/TT/SL

THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM,

- Considering the Constitution of the Republic of Vietnam, dated 1 April 1967;
- Considering Decree # 234/TT/SL, dated 25 May 1968, prescribing the composition of the Government;
- Considering Edict # 10-a, dated 15 August 1950, creating the NATIONAL ORDER OF VIETNAM;
- Considering Decree # 74-a/QT, dated 15 August 1950, creating the NATIONAL ORDER OF VIETNAM;
- Considering Decree # 74-a/QT, dated 15 August 1950, prescribing the procedures for awarding the NATIONAL ORDER OF VIETNAM;
- Following the recommendation of the Chief of the Joint General Staff/ Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces;

DECREES THAT:

ARTICLE I: This formalizes the posthumous award of the NATIONAL ORDER OF VIETNAM, Fifth Class, to the United States Army Officers whose names appear below with the following citation:

"Servicemen of courage and rare self-sacrifice, they displayed at all times the most tactful cooperation while aiding the Armed Forces of the Republic of Vietnam to repel the Red Wave undermining South Vietnam and Southeast Asia.

With a ready zeal and commendable response, they fought on to the end in every mission and set a brilliant example for their fellow soldiers.

They died in the performance of duty. Behind them they leave the abiding grief of their former comrades-in-arms, Vietnamese as well as American."

A. NOT TO INCLUDE THE GALLANTRY CROSS WITH PALM

As of 18 May 1969

1LT - STEVEN R. HUFFSTUTLER - 05429882 - US ARMY

As of 17 May 1969

CPT - DAVID R. CROCKER, JR - OF107612 - US ARMY

As of 18 May 1969

CPT - LEO J. HUBER III - 05248033 - US ARMY
CPT - ALLEN R. CULFEPPER - OF107619 - US ARMY
CPT - OTHA T. SPRIGGS - 05204996 - US ARMY

As of 19 May 1969

LLT - THOMAS D. LIPSCOMB - 05353510 - US ARMY

As of 20 May 1969

LLT - JOSEPH C. STONE - 05347359 - US ARMY

As of 21 May 1969

LLT - JAMES A. DIMOCK, JR - 05352146 - US ARMY
LLT - TIMOTHY K. LE CLAIR - 05352391 - US ARMY

ARTICLE II: The Prime Minister and the Minister of Defense are charged with the execution of this Decree.

SAIGON, 22 August 1969

Signed: NGUYEN VAN THIEU

OFFICIAL

Secretary General

Signed: NGUYEN VAN HUONG

CERTIFIED COPY

Saigon, 5 September 1969
Chief of Correspondence
Office of the Prime Minister
PHAM VAN PHANG

/Signed and Sealed/

I certify that this is a true translation.



D. D. HOLMES
LCDR USN
Chief, MACAG Translation Division