

CALVIN WILLIAM BINDER

Class 38A-67

CALVIN WILLIAM BINDER II
is honored on Panel 9W, Row 101 of
the Vietnam Veterans Memorial

Full Name: CALVIN WILLIAM BINDER II
Wall Name: CALVIN W BINDER II
Date of Birth: 12/25/1946
Date of Casualty: 6/29/1970
Date of Death: 6/29/1970
Home of Record: REMBRANDT
County of Record: BUENA VISTA COUNTY
State: IA
Branch of Service: ARMY
Rank: CAPT
Casualty Country: CAMBODIA
Casualty Province:



CPT Binder served with Troop A, 3rd Squadron, 17th Cavalry. The AH-1G Cobra helicopter gunship that he was flying was shot down in Cambodia near Highway 13 NNW of Quan Loi.

Fiddler's Green

Cal,
What a time we had in OCS. I remember you well.
See you in Fiddler's Green.
Mike

Posted by: Mike Blacker 38A-67
August 21, 2007

Calvin is buried at Buena Vista Memorial Park Cemetery, Storm Lake, Buena Vista County, Iowa.

In the days that followed the death of our son, Bill, we were sorting through some of his personal effects and found these "quotes". We would like to share them with you. From Calvin and Freda Binder.

This day nothing will come my way that God and I can't handle together.

You can't drink your cup dry, without lifting your eyes to God.

If you judge people, you have no time to love them.

Our worst fault, is the preoccupation with the faults of others.

Anger is sand in the machinery of life-Love is the oil.

A man's life is what his thoughts make it.

I shall allow no man to belittle me by making me hate him.

God, teach me to laugh again, but never let me forget I cried.

There are times when nothing a man can say is really so powerful, as saying nothing.

He surely is most in need of another's patience, who has none of his own.

To carry care to bed, is to sleep with a pack on your back.

Advice is like snow, the softer it falls, the longer it remains, and the deeper it sinks into the mind.

To be conscious you are ignorant is a great step toward knowledge.

Your life is God's gift to you, what you do with it, is your gift to God.

Let me give so much time to the improvement of myself that I shall have no time to criticize others.

Friendship is the only cement that will hold the world together.

This day, look for the best in yourself, and not the worst in others.

Love is not blind, it sees more, not less, but because it sees more, it is willing to see less.

Patience is not passive; on the contrary, it is active. It is concentrated strength.

Wouldn't it be nice if we could find other things as easily as we find fault!

Standing your ground is easier when you are grounded in faith.

The Lord sometimes takes us into troubled waters, not to drown us, but to cleanse us.

The center of life is not making a living, but making a life.

Where there is faith, there is love; where there is love, there is peace. Where there is peace, there is God. Where there is God, there is no need.

Calvin wrote this letter to his parents, Calvin and Freda, in April 1970

Dear Mom & Dad,

It is most difficult for me to orally state what I've wanted to tell you for several years. Therefore, I'll try to express myself in writing as best as I can.

Many times I have wanted to convey my thankfulness to you for being such wonderful parents. Your constant support during trying times has been greatly appreciated.

I only hope that when I become a parent I can learn to be as understanding with my children and devoted to their development as you have been. You have deprived yourselves of many things to enable us kids to receive schooling and attend extracurricular activities. This has given us an appreciation for different phases of life. You've set a difficult but truly fine example to follow.

These next few months may be very trying for you, but believe in our countries cause. I have been looking forward to serving my country in RVN for some time. The primary reason for extending my active service was to help other devoted American soldiers in RVN. I strongly believe that what our government is doing in RVN is right. I sincerely hope that you too will have faith in our efforts and trust God that we succeed. Always remember that I am leaving for RVN willingly and am anxious to give my support. Never, please never, speak harshly against our actions. Accidents will happen, lives will be lost, but we have a purpose and will succeed. Whatever I do, I like to do well, and I work doubly hard for something I believe in. I believe in our country's actions in RVN and am willing to defend them at all costs.

This letter by no means is meant to sound like a final farewell. I have within me a foiling desire and an assurance that there is a great challenge for me to meet within the next few years.

Many personal opportunities lie ahead and I'm anxious to discover them. But now, my obligation to my country comes first. Dad, you've instilled in me a great sense of pride to be a member of the armed forces and to serve our country. For this I am thankful.

Thank you for your understanding and support.

Cpt Calvin W Binder II



Calvin with his mother, Freda



Calvin (Bill) wrote this poem while he was in the 6th Grade.



From www.flyarmy.org

BINDER CALVIN WILLIAM II

Name: CPT Calvin William Binder II
Status: Killed In Action from an incident on 06/29/1970 while performing the duty of Pilot.
Age at death: 23.5
Date of Birth: 12/25/1946
Home City: Rembrandt, IA
Service: FA branch of the reserve component of the U.S. Army.
Unit: A/3/17 CAV, 3 PLT
Major organization: 1st Aviation Brigade
Flight class: 70-2
Service: FA branch of the U.S. Army.
The Wall location: 09W-101
Short Summary: (Cobra 581) shot down in Cambodia with Jim Elkin near highway 13 west n. west of Quan Loi. Bill died from internal injuries 6/30.
Aircraft: AH-1G tail number 67-15581
Country: Cambodia
MOS: 1981 = 19 Rotary Wing Aviator (Unit Commander)
Primary cause: Hostile Fire
Major attributing cause: aircraft connected not at sea
Compliment cause: vehicular accident
Vehicle involved: helicopter
Position in vehicle: co-pilot
Vehicle ownership: government
Started Tour: 05/27/1970
"Official" listing: helicopter air casualty - other aircrew
The initial status of this person was: no previous report
Length of service: *
Reason: aircraft lost or crashed
Casualty type: Hostile - killed
single male U.S. citizen
Race: Caucasian
Religion: Presbyterian
The following information secondary, but may help in explaining this incident.
Category of casualty as defined by the Army: non-battle dead Category of personnel: active duty Army Military class: officer

This record was last updated on 05/25/1998

Helicopter AH-1G 67-15581

Information on U.S. Army helicopter AH-1G tail number 67-15581

The Army purchased this helicopter 0468

Total flight hours at this point: 00001845

Date: 06/29/1970

Incident number: 70063022.KIA

Unit: A/3/17 CAV

This was a Combat Loss caused by being shot down by Other with the mission function of Armed Helicopter (having primary weapon subsystems installed and utilized to provide direct fire support)

This was a Combat incident. This helicopter was LOSS TO INVENTORY

This was a Recon mission for Armed Recon

While Enroute this helicopter was at Level Flight at 1500 feet and 080 knots.

Cambodia

UTM grid coordinates: XU422065

Count of hits was not possible because the helicopter burned or exploded.

Small Arms/Automatic Weapons; Gun launched non-explosive ballistic projectiles less than 20 mm in size.

Systems damaged were: PERSONNEL

Casualties = 01 KIA, 01 DOI. .

Search and rescue operations were Not Required

The helicopter Crashed. Aircraft Destroyed.

Both mission and flight capability were terminated.

Destroyed by friendly forces

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

Survivability/Vulnerability Information Analysis Center AVDAC database. Defense Intelligence Agency Helicopter Loss database. Survivability/Vulnerability Information Analysis Center Helicopter database. Also: OPERA, CRAFT, CALTR, JSIDR, CASRP (Operations Report. Joint Services Incident Damage Report. Crash Facts Message. Casualty Report.)

Loss to Inventory and Helicopter was not recovered

Crew Members:

P CPT BINDER CALVIN WILLIAM II KIA

P CW2 ELKIN JAMES FREEMAN KIA

This record was last updated on 04/15/2004

CAPT. CALVIN WILLIAM BINDER II
A Troop 3/17 Air Cavalry

Entered into service
November, 1966 at Ft. Bliss, Texas.

Completed training in A.I.T.
at Ft. Lewis, Washington

Graduated from O.C.S.
at Ft. Sill, Oklahoma, October, 1967

Re-enlisted for further military service
in October, 1969

Preliminary Flight school training
at Ft. Wolters, Texas, October, 1969

Honored as Distinguished Graduate
from Helicopter Flight School
March, 1970 at Hunter Army Air Field
Savannah, Georgia

Attended Cobra Attack
Helicopter training school
Hunter Army Air Field, Savannah, Georgia

Departed for Vietnam
May 27, 1970
Based at DI AN near Saigon, South Vietnam

Gave his life for his country
June 29, 1970 while on a flight over Cambodia

In Memory Of

CALVIN W. BINDER II

Born December 25, 1946
Clay Center, Kansas

SERVICES

July 30, 1970 11:00 a.m.

CLERGY

Kenneth MacLeod - Robert Boell

HONORARY BEARERS

Roger Setterdahl	Dean Boettcher
Mike Hendrickson	Dennis Sassman
Lanny Peterson	George Brush
Roger Gustafson	Ron Johnson

HONOR GUARD

	Guard Co. U.S. Army DB	
	Fort Leavenworth, Kansas	
Bearers	Firing Squad	Bugler

MILITARY HONORS

Rombrandt American Legion Post No. 468

MILITARY ASSISTANCE OFFICER

Capt. Richard Robinson

MILITARY ESCORT

1st. Lt. Robert K. Mueller

MUSIC

Joy Pitstick John Dunkelreiger

INTERMENT

Buena Vista Memorial Park
Hughes-Nelson Funeral Home