

LOUIS KARL BREUER IV

Class 19-70

LOUIS KARL IV BREUER
is honored on Panel 1W, Row 47 of
the Vietnam Veterans Memorial

Full Name: LOUIS KARL IV BREUER
Wall Name: LOUIS K BREUER IV
Date of Birth: 3/22/1946
Date of Casualty: 6/20/1972
Home of Record: RICHARDSON
County of Record: COLLIN COUNTY
State: TX
Branch of Service: ARMY
Rank: 1LT
Casualty Country: SOUTH VIETNAM
Casualty Province: BINH LONG



1LT Breuer was serving with F Troop, 1st Squadron, 9th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division at the time of his death. He was flying an AH-1G Cobra gunship that was shot down by an enemy SA-7 missile, near An Loc, Binh Long Province, South Vietnam,

A great man

I met Lou when he and my husband were in flight school together. Lou was larger than life. When Peter Forame went down in Cambodia he went and flew over the site to see if he could somehow rescue him or at least confirm his death for all of us who were friends. He confirmed the site and that the helicopter had exploded. Then a few months later he went down. I wrote his mother at the time about how special he was! He is missed

Posted by: Sondra (Griffith)Wayman
November 20, 2008

He was my Hero

I remember someone who was larger than life. Someone who was larger than the war we fought. Someone who lit up the room when he came in. He was a natural leader. I was a machine gunner on hueys and I knew that when he was flying cover in his cobra we would be safe. Thirty-one years later I still remember how good it felt to know he was on our team. When the LZ (landing zone) was hot (had enemy waiting in it), it was a big relief to know that Lt. Breuer was watching our backs. I can't count the number of times that his ability to provide protective fire with his cobra saved my life. As long as I live I will honor his memory.

Posted by: Major Leonard B. Shearer (Ret.)
Relationship: We were in Vietnam together
May 10, 2003

From the wall-usa.com

You will always, be my Hero

Lt., Breuer, I can't believe it is almost 38 years since we lost you. You always seemed indestructible. You were such a Man's man, larger than life. You were one of the officers that all us enlisted guys looked up to. The Spring Offensive of 1972 caught a lot of folks off-guard but not you. It always seemed that you were at your best when things were at their worst. The day you died all of us felt more venerable. Our hero was gone. As long as I live you will, not be forgotten. Target

Leonard (Bruce) Shearer
Friend, fellow Cav., soldier
6367, West, Villa Rita Drive, Glendale, Arizona, 85308-1178
Mar 15, 2010

One, of The Good Guys

I served in Vietnam with Lou in (D Troop, 3/5, Cavalry) from approximately October 71 until March 72. Lou was a little larger than life to me. He was a kind and gentle guy, but an aggressive warrior. His smile was something to behold. There may have been only one other officer in D, Troop that loved combat flying more than Lou - and that person was Captain Hugh Mills. Naturally Lou began flying front seat with Hugh and I recall they flew a number of missions together. At this point I don't recall whether he and I flew a mission together but I don't think so. It was a difficult time - a lot of doubts about the war, a lot of turmoil about the war at home. A mission to complete, nevertheless. Lou and I talked a lot at night. He taught me to mix hot tea with Tang which we often drank in my hooch, while most of the others were spending the evening at the officers' club. His interest in me and my family was genuine and reflected a level of maturity beyond his years. I left the Army in March of 72 and was in training for my new job with Michelin. On a Sunday afternoon that summer during a sports broadcast of some sort, I heard the announcement that he had been shot down and was dead. I cried - a lot. I would like to have seen Lou achieve his full potential in life... such a shame that he had no opportunity to show us the rest of what he was capable of - it would have been a great deal indeed.

Mike Bair
Served with him, as fellow, AH1G, pilot
785, Chardoney Drive, Wadsworth, OH., 44281
Jun 1, 2008

"My thoughts are always with you, big guy!"

I attended AIT and OCS with Lou and considered him a true friend and a great leader. His passion was flying and he loved every minute of the short life he had. I remember many nights talking about our futures in the Army as we laid in our bunks at Ft. Sill and his devotion to his chosen profession, his country, his family and the girl he loved never wavered. While in flight school he came to visit me at Ft. Hood and tried to get me to go Regular Army because he loved the Army so much. Men like Lou, touch the hearts of everyone they meet and I shall never, ever forget him! Go with God, my brother.

Thomas Gunning
Attended AIT and OCS with him
1505, Grande Blvd., #105, Tyler, TX., 75703
August 06, 2004

Memorial Day, 2010 and again I think of you and miss you. The world is a much sadder place without you. So many years since we were together but I remember you as if it were yesterday. Heroes like you are the reason we celebrate today. I know I will see you again! Always, my Cav brother!

Tom Gunning
Served with him through AIT and OCS
Schertz TX 78154 USA
May 31, 2010





A great competitor, a great soldier, a great human being

I was a student trainer for the Red Raider football team while Lou played at Texas Tech, and I will always remember his great attitude, his all-out hustle and determination to succeed, and for his humor. He was not the most gifted athlete on the team, but his courage and determination made him a great player and the ultimate team player. I remember his play in the 1966 Arkansas game where he caught several balls which kept scoring drives alive and helped run out the clock as the Red Raiders beat the then # 2-ranked Razorbacks 20-16. I also remember the 'bullet' touchdown he caught against Baylor and a lot of other plays he made during his career. He was also a strong blocker and played full-speed from start to finish in every game. His warmth and sense of humor will always be remembered as will his laugh and his out-going personality. 'Just one of the guys' was and is a hero to all of us who knew him and admired Lou Breuer the player and Lou Breuer the human being. May he rest eternally in peace and may all of his catches result in touchdowns, wherever he plays. Sincerely, David T. Green Class of 1969, Texas Tech University.

David Green

Was a Student Trainer at Texas Tech

6255 Briar Rose Drive, Houston, Texas 77057-3503 USA

Nov 14, 2011

From www.flyarmy.org

BREUER LOUIS KARL IV

Name: 1LT Louis Karl Breuer IV

Status: Killed In Action from an incident on 06/20/1972 while performing the duty of Aircraft Commander.

Age at death: 26.2

Date of Birth: 03/22/1946

Home City: Richardson, TX

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

Unit: F/9 CAV

Major organization: 1st Cavalry Division

Flight class: 71-20

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

The Wall location: 01W-047

Short Summary: Shot down by a SA-7 missile near An Loc with Townsend. Nickname Animal.

Aircraft: AH-1G tail number 67-15718

Call sign: Sabre 22

Country: South Vietnam

MOS: G1204

Primary cause: SA-7 Missile

Major attributing cause: aircraft connected not at sea

Compliment cause: fire or burns

Vehicle involved: helicopter

Position in vehicle: aircraft commander

Vehicle ownership: government

Started Tour: 09/24/1971

"Official" listing: helicopter air casualty - other aircrew

The initial status of this person was: missing in action - P I D

Length of service: *

Location: Binh Long Province III Corps.

Military grid coordinates of event: XT769770

Reason: aircraft lost or crashed

Casualty type: Hostile - killed

single male U.S. citizen

Race: Caucasian

Religion: Episcopal (Anglican)

The following information secondary, but may help in explaining this incident.

Category of casualty as defined by the Army: battle dead Category of personnel: active duty Army Military class: officer

This record was last updated on 08/07/2000

Helicopter AH-1G 67-15718

Information on U.S. Army helicopter AH-1G tail number 67-15718

The Army purchased this helicopter 0868

Total flight hours at this point: 00002640

Date: 06/20/1972

Incident number: 72062010.KIA

Unit: H/16 CAV 1 CAV

This helicopter was LOST TO INVENTORY

South Vietnam

UTM grid coordinates: XT769770

Original source(s) and document(s) from which the incident was created or updated: Defense Intelligence Agency Helicopter Loss database. Also: OPERA, GOLDBOOK (Operations Report.)

Summary: Shot down by an SA-7 missile over An Loc.

Loss to Inventory

Crew Members:

AC 1LT BREUER LOUIS KARL IV KIA

P CW2 TOWNSEND BURDETTE D JR KIA

War Story:

I can't add much to it as I was in Saigon just returning from R & R the day Lt Brewer and MR Townsend were shot down. I can tell you that our unit F Troop 9th Cav added the Strella missile alert to our SOP after they were shot down. Some wiz kid in the ivory palace came up with this one. If we saw a missile launched at us we were supposed to do the following: depress the intercom switch and announce "Strella, Strella, Strella, Missile, Missile, Missile and then give the clock direction it was coming from." Now given that we were flying usually anywhere from treetop level to 1,500 feet and given that the missile could go about 1.5 mach, it did not take a rocket scientist to figure we were not going to be able to get all that announcement out before we would be impacted by the missile. My AC, (Captain Bailey), told me and my gunner to just yell "Missile," and he could figure out the fact that it was a Strella and that it was coming from somewhere behind us. The Army quickly outfitted our slick with something that looked like a toilet bowl to the back section of our engine. It was a scoop like thing that vented our exhaust up into the main rotor. It was supposed to defuse the exhaust enough that the Strella could not get a lock on us. I don't know if it really worked or if it was just eye candy to help our morale. We really did not have any faith in it. We just did our job and hoped for the best. Losing Lt. Brewer was like losing the quarterback from the football team in the fourth quarter of the Superbowl. He was everybody's hero. He was physically a big man. It was told to me that he played college football for some school in Texas. He was outgoing and very likable. You have to remember I was a crew chief at the time and not an officer. Us enlisted men looked at officers differently than they saw themselves. I didn't know any soldier who thought Lt Brewer was the kind of guy to look down his nose at a man just because he was enlisted. He was well liked and admired throughout the whole unit. If he was flying cover for us with a heavy pink team, we knew he would put it on the line to protect us and on many occasions he did just that. After he was killed all of us felt a little more vulnerable. I did not know Mr. Townsend as well except to say he was a solid pilot. He was a quiet kind of guy, solid and reliable. He had brass ones and would watch your back when things were going bad. Bruce. This record was last updated on 05/25/2003



Louis is buried at Fort Sill Post Cemetery Plot: Section VI Site 2949