

ALFONSO ROQUE CASTRO**Class 9-67**

ALFONSO ROQUE CASTRO
is honored on Panel 16W, Row 27 of
the Vietnam Veterans Memorial

Full Name: ALFONSO ROQUE CASTRO
Wall Name: ALFONSO R CASTRO
Date of Birth: 2/16/1943
Date of Casualty: 11/4/1969
Home of Record: LOS ANGELES
County of Record: LOS ANGELES COUNTY
State: CA
Branch of Service: ARMY
Rank: CAPT
Casualty Country: SOUTH VIETNAM
Casualty Province: KHANH HOA



CPT Castro was the pilot of a UH-1H helicopter from the 192nd Assault Helicopter Company that crashed in bad weather in Zuc Me Pass near Da Lat. The seven men on board were missing in action until the wreckage was found almost three years later. The wreckage was located on 9 July 1973, and the recovered remains were identified on 5 Sep 1973. Captain Castro is buried in Rose Hills Memorial Park Cemetery (Garden of Benediction), Los Angeles, California.

Classmates FAOCS 9-67

We, your classmates, remember & salute you now & always. Our gratitude, & that of the people of the United States & the Republic of Vietnam, is never ending. Rest with God in peace.

Posted by: David L.
Relationship: We were close friends
September 27, 2008

Al's nickname, as you might expect in 1968, was "Fidel". Although our unit radio call sign was "Polecat", Fidel was frequently called by his personal nickname.

Fidel, John Anderson, two crewmen, and three passengers crashed in bad weather in Zuc Me pass near Da Lat. They were missing in action until the wreckage was found almost three years later.

From a friend,
Jim Schueckler
192nd AHC

A Note from The Virtual Wall

Seven men died when UH-1H hull number 68-16057 belonging to the 192nd Assault Helicopter Company crashed on 04 Nov 1969. Four were crewmen from the 192nd AHC; the other three were passengers assigned to the 155th AHC:

Aircrew, 192nd AHC

CPT Alfonso R. Castro, Los Angeles, CA

CWO John S. Anderson, Waterloo, IA

SP6 Allan G. Kennedy, Fremont, CA

SSG Marion L. Roach, Central Valley, CA

Passengers, 155th AHC

SSG Rick E. Medaris, Jenison, MI

SSG John A. Payne, New York, NY

SP5 Richard G. Bauer, Anchorage, AK



From www.flyarmy.org

CASTRO ALFONSO ROQUE

Name: CPT Alfonso Roque Castro

Status: Killed In Action from an incident on 11/04/1969 while performing the duty of Pilot.

Age at death: 26.7

Date of Birth: 02/16/1943

Home City: Los Angeles, CA

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

Unit: 192 AHC

Prior Unit: 155 AHC

Major organization: 1st Aviation Brigade

Flight class: 68-2

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

The Wall location: 16W-027

Short Summary: Crashed in "Zuc Me Pass" going from Dong Ba Thin to Dalat. Missing 3 years. Crew of 4 and 2-3 passengers.

Aircraft: UH-1H tail number 68-16057

Country: South Vietnam

MOS: 1981 = 19 Rotary Wing Aviator (Unit Commander)

Primary cause: Remains 7/9/73

Major attributing cause: aircraft connected not at sea

Compliment cause: vehicular accident

Vehicle involved: helicopter

Position in vehicle: aircraft commander

Vehicle ownership: government

Started Tour: 12/03/1968

"Official" listing: helicopter air casualty - other aircrew

The initial status of this person was: non-hostile missing - interim

Length of service: *

Location: Khanh Hoa Province II Corps.

Military grid coordinates of event: BP900830

Reason: aircraft lost or crashed

Casualty type: Non-hostile - died while missing
single male U.S. citizen

Race: Caucasian

Religion: Roman Catholic

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 11/10/2000

Helicopter UH-1H 68-16057

Information on U.S. Army helicopter UH-1H tail number 68-16057

The Army purchased this helicopter 0869

Total flight hours at this point: 00000200

Date: 11/04/1969 MIA-POW file reference number: 1516

Incident number: 691104011ACD Accident case number: 691104011 Total loss or fatality Accident

Unit: 192 AHC

The station for this helicopter was Phan Thiet in South Vietnam

Number killed in accident = 2. . Injured = 0. . Passengers = 3

costing 318554

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

Defense Intelligence Agency Reference Notes. Defense Intelligence Agency Helicopter Loss database. Army Aviation Safety Center database. Also: 1516 ()

Loss to Inventory

Crew Members:

P CPT CASTRO ALFONSO ROQUE KIA

P CW2 ANDERSON JOHN STEVEN RR

CE SSG ROACH MARION LEE KIA

G SP6 KENNEDY ALLAN GORDON KIA

Passengers and/or other participants:

SSG MEDARIS RICK EGGBURTUS, AR, PX, KIA

SSG PAYNE JOHN ALLEN, AR, PX, KIA

SP5 BAUER RICHARD GENE, AR, PX, KIA

Accident Summary:

ON 4 NOVEMBER 1969 AIRCRAFT DEPARTED 48TH AVN CO PAD LOCATED AT NINH HOA, RVN AT 1125 HOURS ENROUTE TO THE 155TH AVN CO LOCATED AT BAN ME THOUT, RVN. THIS WAS THE LAST KNOWN CONTACT WITH THE AIRCRAFT. AT APPROXIMATELY 1800 ON THE EVENING OF 4 NOVEMBER 1969, AND AFTER AN EXTENSIVE RAMP CHECK WAS MADE AT NINH HOA, RVN, BAN ME THOUT, RVN AND PHU HIEP, RVN, AIRCRAFT 68-16057 WAS REPORTED TO 10TH AVIATION BATTALION (COMBAT) AS MISSING.

This record was last updated on 09/20/1998