

RICHARD DAVID HULSE

Class 503-68

is honored on Panel 12W, Row 35 of
the Vietnam Veterans Memorial

Full Name: RICHARD DAVID HULSE
Wall Name: RICHARD D HULSE
Date of Birth: 5/5/1945
Date of Casualty: 3/23/1970
Home of Record: FLAGSTAFF
County of Record: COCONINO COUNTY
State: AZ
Branch of Service: ARMY
Rank: CAPT
Casualty Country: SOUTH VIETNAM
Casualty Province: THUA THIEN



CPT Hulse lost his life while serving with Battery B, 4th Battalion, 77th Artillery (Aerial Rocket). He was shot down while piloting an AH-1G Cobra helicopter.

A Close Friend

I attended OCS with Rich Hulse. He was very professional and a little aloof, I think because of his West Point background. But our wives became friends so we became friends. I received word of his death on the day I returned from Vietnam... not a good Homecoming. We lost a good friend and a great soldier that day. I think of him often.

Posted by: Charles D. Kosmerl
Relationship: We served together
June 13, 2007

Fellow Officer Candidate

Richard Hulse was one of 68 fellow Officer Candidates and everyone held him in high esteem because of his previous West Point background. He and his wife were especially friendly to my wife and child. He gave the ultimate sacrifice and will always be remembered for this.

Posted by: David Reed
Relationship: Fellow Officer Candidate
February 16, 2001

The ONLY ONE ON THE WALL

Captain Hulse graduated from West Point but was not commissioned because he had gotten married during his last week there. The army in their wisdom drafted him and allowed him to go to artillery officer candidate school 1967-1968. He was as fine an individual as I ever met in the army. There were 68 people in our class. I was hoping as I checked my list of orders, that they had all made it out of Vietnam alive. Tears came to my eyes as I realized that Captain Hulse was the only one who was killed there. I know that he was a courageous individual and I look forward to seeing him resurrected on a paradise earth.

Posted by: ED FERGUSON
Relationship: Fellow Officer Candidate
Wednesday, October 4, 2000

From thewall-usa.com

Thinking of you

I was just talking about you to my daughter and wife, at the start of the Army vs. Irish football game. My wife remembers dancing with you at graduation party from OCS, as I danced with your wife. I remember you as an outstanding young man, with grace, talent and leadership. Your death was a loss for your family but also for the world, as you made it a better place. Time may pass, but you are remembered well.

Max Rishell
Fellow Officer and Viet Nam Vet
2629 East Madison Springfield MO 65802 USA
Nov 20, 2010

Rich: You were the finest officer candidate in our class, as I would expect from anyone with four years of "OCS Prep". Our wives became friends and finally so did we. We visited you and Joleen at Ft. Rucker as I was leaving for Vietnam and that was the last time I saw you. I heard of your death on the day I returned home, thirty years ago, and it was not much consolation to know that you died doing what you loved. The Army lost a superb officer but I lost a friend. I think of you often.

Charles Kosmerl
Same OCS class and friend.
43 Regatta Way
Napa, CA 94559 USA
October 24, 2000

To a friend, a Patriot, and a Great American

Richard and I endured 6 months of Field Artillery OCS together. He was a leader and graduated in the top of his class. He was always a team player and willing to help anyone. He inspired his classmates and set the example for others to follow. Upon graduation, Rich and I were classmates and next door neighbors at Flight School in Ft. Wolters, TX. He and his wife Joleen were gracious hosts, good friends, and a wonderful couple. As a team, Rich and Joleen were destined to rise to the highest ranks within the U.S. Army. Richard Hulse was a great American and he distinguished himself in the service of his country. His untimely death was a loss to his country, his family, and his friends. It was my honor to have known Richard!

Alan Sickman
OCS & Flight School classmate
1500 Beringer Place
Virginia Beach, VA 23454
August 27, 2004

From the Virtual Wall

I first met Richard in December of 1967. We were both brand new Officer Candidates at Fort Sill and ended up being cube (room without complete walls and no door) mates for the next six months. When our wives came to Fort Sill, they decided to room together to save money.

We both went to Flight School and were in the same class 69-8. We both ended up being assigned to the 101st but he was assigned to the ARA Battery and I ended up getting assigned to the Division Artillery Aviation unit. He flew Cobras and I flew Loaches and we worked together many times.

On March 20, 1970, I was shot down along a ridge line southwest of Camp Eagle. Three days later, Richard and the pilot he was giving a lesson to were shot down not 2 kilometers from where I was shot down.

Call it luck, call it fate, call it anything you want. We were very close in life and but for 2 kilometers, we would be connected in death.

It is said that as long as one person is alive who remembers you, you are not gone. I go to The Wall twice a year to pay my respects to you and my other fallen comrades, and you all have faces I remember.

Richard, may you rest in peace and may God Bless Your Soul.

Bob Reigel
A/377 Arty
Gunner 84
22 Feb 2008

From www.flyarmy.org

HULSE RICHARD DAVID

Name: CPT Richard David Hulse (posthumously promoted)
Status: Killed In Action from an incident on 03/23/1970 while performing the duty of Aircraft Commander.
Age at death: 24.9
Date of Birth: 05/05/1945
Home City: Flagstaff, AZ
Service: FA branch of the reserve component of the U.S. Army.
Unit: B/4/77 ARA 101 ABN
Major organization: 101st Airborne Division
Flight class: 69-8
Service: FA branch of the U.S. Army.
The Wall location: 12W-035
Short Summary: Aircraft accident. See Pardee.
Aircraft: AH-1G tail number 67-15602
Service number: O5434346
Country: South Vietnam
MOS: 1981 = 19 Rotary Wing Aviator (Unit Commander)
Primary cause: Hostile Fire
Major attributing cause: aircraft connected not at sea
Compliment cause: weapons
Vehicle involved: helicopter
Position in vehicle: co-pilot
Started Tour: 05/30/1969
"Official" listing: helicopter air casualty - other aircrew
Length of service: 02
Location: Thua Thien Province I Corps.
Reason: aircraft lost or crashed
Casualty type: Hostile - killed
married male U.S. citizen
Race: Caucasian
Religion: Protestant - no denominational preference
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 12/26/1996

Helicopter AH-1G 67-15602

Information on U.S. Army helicopter AH-1G tail number 67-15602

The Army purchased this helicopter 0568

Total flight hours at this point: 00000483

Date: 03/23/1970

Incident number: 70032333.KIA

Unit: B/4/77 ARA 101 ABN

This was a Combat Loss caused by being shot down by Ground Fire less than .50 cal in size with the mission function of Training

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

This was a Miscellaneous mission for Training Flight

While in Operations Area this helicopter was in Orbit at UNK feet and UNK knots.

South Vietnam

UTM grid coordinates: YD737016

Helicopter took 1 hits from:

Explosive Weapon; Non-Artillery launched or static weapons containing explosive charges.

causing a Blast.

Systems damaged were: PERSONNEL

Casualties = 02 DOI . .

Search and rescue operations were Not Required

The helicopter Crashed. Aircraft Destroyed.

Both mission and flight capability were terminated.

Burned

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, LNNF, CRAFX, FM385, CASRP (Operations Report. Lindenmuth New Format Data Base. Crash Facts Message. Casualty Report.)

Loss to Inventory and Helicopter was not recovered

Crew Members:

P WO1 PARDEE SCOTT KENTON KIA

AC CPT HULSE RICHARD DAVID KIA

War Story:

CPT Rich Hulse was giving WO1 Scotty Pardee a back seat check out on a training flight. Since they were overdue and I was on my way back from the A Shau Valley, I was told to start S&R (Search and Rescue) and was given the approximate location where they were supposed to be working. I did find the burned wreckage and called it in. It could never be determined if they were hit by enemy fire or flew through a GT (gun to target) line. The transmission had left the aircraft in flight. Submitted by Bill Gurski, Dec 1996.

This record was last updated on 04/15/2004