

STEVEN ALLAN OLSON

Class 10-70

is honored on Panel 8W, Row 44 of
the Vietnam Veterans Memorial

Full Name: STEVEN ALLAN OLSON
Wall Name: STEVEN A OLSON
Date of Birth: 11/8/1946
Date of Casualty: 7/22/1970
Home of Record: CHAMBLEE
County of Record: DEKALB COUNTY
State: GA
Branch of Service: ARMY
Rank: 2LT
Casualty Country: SOUTH VIETNAM
Casualty Province: THUA THIEN



2LT Olson was assigned to B Battery, 2nd Battalion, 319th Field Artillery Regiment, 101st Airborne Division and was serving as a Forward Observer with Company A, 2nd Battalion, 506th Infantry at the time of his death. He was one of more than a dozen "Currahees" from Alpha Company killed in action on that day in 1970.

Fellow Class Mate FA OCS Class 10-70

Steve, I only recently was informed of your death in Nam. My heart goes out to you and your family. You will always be remembered.

Posted by: William Caulk
Relationship: We served together
May 6, 2009

my friend

Steve and I served in Vietnam together. I was next to him when he was killed. I know if Steve would have lived we would of been friends to this day. Steve was my FO and I was his RTO. Steve I think about you a lot but I also know that you're with God now.

Relationship: We were close friends
February 15, 2009

We send the best to do the worst.

Steve,

There is not a week that goes by without remembering some of our conversation regarding your orders to Vietnam. May 1970 was lucky for some and heartless for others. All of us were truly innocent and the OD green designated our job. You like a lot of the class of 1970 did not choose your vocation. I miss your wit and wish that your life would have ran a normal course. I count my blessings in your name.

2LT D. Johnson- May 1970.

Posted by: David Johnson

Relationship: We served together

May 21, 2008

I miss you, my friend

Hardly a day goes by that I do not recall our friendship, the conversations, and the times that we shared. I am retiring from 31 years at our alma mater, the University of Missouri. Every time I pass the School of Journalism I think of how you would practice your "TV Anchor" delivery from our cubicle in OCS. During my remarks on retiring from the military in 2001, I spoke of your friendship and the strength that it gave me in difficult moments. Carry on, my friend.

Posted by: Randy Vessell, fellow vet and OCS classmate.

Relationship: We served together

November 30, 2006

Gone too long

We formed a tight bond in OCS and then attended jungle school in Panama together. We said goodbye to your family in Atlanta and flew to Viet Nam together. I cried when I got the news. Even today it hurts to think of your passing. The world lost a great one in you. Rest in peace my friend.

Posted by: Larry Halstead

Relationship: We were close friends

February 4, 2010

Steven is buried at Murray City Cemetery, Murray, Kentucky

From thewall-usa.com

I was just looking over our class photo. You were one of 33 graduating candidates being commissioned in the Field Artillery or Signal Corps. You were the best cadence caller of the class. We all miss you but we still remember you.

John Whitson
FA OCS Class 10-70 Classmate
128 Factors Walk Ln Morrisville NC 27560
Jul 11, 2011

40 year anniversary

To those that knew you the smile and personality still remain. I thank you for what you did still after 40 years.

David Johnson
Battery member during OCS
Jul 22, 2010

Friends forever

You were my best friend in OCS. We had plans to be forever friends. You're still in my heart. Rest in peace.

Larry Halstead
Friend
Jan 9, 2008





2nd Lt. Steven Olson served with B Battery, 2nd Battalion, 319th Field Artillery Regiment, 101st Airborne Division. His tour began on 28 May 1970.

On 21-22 July 1970, he was serving as a Forward Observer with the 2nd Battalion, 506th Infantry Regiment on Hill 805, which lies 1.5 kilometers east-southeast of FSB Ripcord. This was the location of heavy fighting throughout much of July. On 21 July, "D" Company, 1/506th Infantry, lost five men on Hill 805; on the following day "A" Company, 2/506, lost 12 men in an equally brutal fight, while a 13th died from wounds received.

Hill 927 was located 20 miles due west of Hue and about 7 miles northeast of the northern end of the A Shau Valley. The 1st Cavalry Division built Fire Support Base Carol on Hill 927 in 1968, and it was used by elements of the 101st Airborne as early as January 1969. The position was of considerable importance because it lay only 5 miles north of Hill 1615, also known as Co Pung Mountain or "The Warehouse", wherein was hidden a major logistics complex which supported the North Vietnamese Army's 29th and 803rd Regiments.

Hill 927 was abandoned, then reopened by ground assault on 11 Apr 1970. Elements of the 101st Airborne took up residence in what was now known as Fire Support Base Ripcord and proceeded to make life miserable for the NVA commands in and around the Co Pung. This situation elicited a violent response from the NVA leading to the "Siege of FSB Ripcord" in June-July 1970. The three-week period covering the siege cost the 101st Airborne 75 killed and 345 wounded in action before FSB Ripcord was again abandoned on 23 July 1970.

Hill 805, which lies 1.5 kilometers east-southeast of FSB Ripcord, was the location of heavy fighting throughout much of July. On 21-22 July, the 1st and 2nd Bns, 506th Infantry lost twenty men there:

B Btry, 2nd Bn, 319th Artillery
2LT Steven A. Olson, Chamblee, GA

HHC, 326th Med Bn
SGT Brent R. Law, St Johns, MI

D Co, 1st Bn, 506th Infantry
CPT Donald R. Workman, Kirkwood, MO
SFC Ronald J. Schultz, Hillsboro, KS
CPL Frank L. Asher, Hamilton, OH
CPL Peter P. Huk, Cedar Rapids, IA

HHC, 1st Bn, 506th Infantry
CPL Robert B. Hays, Weslaco, TX

A Co, 2nd Bn, 506th Infantry
1LT William A. Pahissa, Tucson, AZ
SSG John W. Kreckel, Milwaukee, WI (Dist Svc Cross)
SSG Gerald B. Singleton, Indio, CA
SGT Harvey R. Neal, South Boston, VA
SGT Thomas R. Schultz, Pittsburgh, PA
CPL John M. Babich, Franklin Grove, IL
CPL Virgil M. Bixby, Iowa City, IA
CPL Robert J. Brown, Buffalo, NY
CPL Danny J. Fries, Council Bluffs, IA
SP4 Robert M. Journell, Salem, VA
SP4 Donald J. Severson, Superior, WI

B Co, 2nd Bn, 506th Infantry
CPL Francis E. Maune, Washington, MO

HHC, 2nd Bn, 506th Infantry
SGT Mark G. Draper, Finly, IN