

JOSEPH D PELLEGRINO

CLASS 1-65

is honored on Panel 7E, Row 85 of
the Vietnam Veterans Memorial

Full Name: JOSEPH D PELLEGRINO
Wall Name: JOSEPH D PELLEGRINO
Date of Birth: 8/11/1943
Date of Casualty: 5/18/1966
Home of Record: PHILADELPHIA
State: PA
Branch of Service: ARMY
Rank: 2LT
Casualty Country: SOUTH VIETNAM
Casualty Province: PR & MR UNKNOWN



2LT Pellegrino served with the U.S. Army Special Forces and was an advisor to a Civilian Irregular Defense Group (CIDG) company. He lost his life while successfully saving captured enemy documents that had been swept down the Song Con River, in Binh Dinh Province South Vietnam. He was assigned to the Special Forces Detachment A-228 (VinhThanh).

De Opresso Liber

Joe and I were the first Special Forces Troopers to attend Arty OCS, both then RVN vets. Joe was from the 5SFG and I from 7SFG. We reported in together, and the night before reporting to OCS my dress uniform was stolen. I had to use Joe's after he reported in. (A logistical nightmare)! A courageous, selfless professional soldier who I am proud to call my friend. I was to meet with Joe at Nha Trang the day after he was killed, and was deeply saddened when 5SFG notified me of his death. God bless you Joe, until we meet again on Fiddler's Green.

Posted by: Al Dunnem, Class 1-65
Relationship: We were close friends
Sunday, October 26, 2008

Pellegrino's sense of adventure led him to join the Green Berets. He had enlisted in the Army in September 1961 after graduating from Father Judge High School.

He was ordered to Vietnam in 1963 as a private, then returned home a sergeant. He re-enlisted in 1965 because he was attracted to the Special Forces and wanted to go to Officer Candidate School.

The 22-year-old second lieutenant became a senior advisor to a Civilian Irregular Defense Group company in Vietnam, dying on May 18, 1966, while successfully saving captured enemy documents that had been swept down the Song Con River.

Pellegrino was survived by his parents. Post 3 of the Italian-American War Veterans in Lafayette Hill was renamed the Joseph D. Pellegrino Post in the young officer's memory. Joseph lived on Aubrey Avenue, in the Torresdale section of Philadelphia.

Source: Philadelphia Daily News 10/26/1987

Jack Newell



Joseph D. "Joey" Pellegrino (second from left) with buddies in Vietnam.