

is honored on Panel 17E, Row 24 of
the Vietnam Veterans Memorial

Full Name: GEORGE BERNARD RUSNAK
Wall Name: GEORGE B RUSNAK
Date of Birth: 9/30/1937
Date of Casualty: 3/22/1967
Home of Record: PHILIPSBURG
State: PA
Branch of Service: ARMY
Rank: CAPT
Casualty Country: SOUTH VIETNAM
Casualty Province: BINH DINH



CPT Rusnak served with Troop B, 1st Squadron, 9th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division. He was flying a UH-1B Helicopter gunship on an attack mission and was shot down during a gun-run. All four members of the crew perished in the incident.

I think of you, whenever I see the Wall

Capt. Rusnak was fine pilot and a great individual. He was flying co-pilot the day I was wounded in the An Lao Valley Feb. 18, 1967. We flew into an ambush on that day. Since the helicopter was not shot down we flew straight for the field hospital where I was given care for my wounds and sent on to the evacuation hospital at Quin Nhon. That was the last time I saw the Capt., While I was in the hospital in Hawaii I received a letter from my friend Chuck Stephenson that Bernie had been killed along with the whole crew of his helicopter. Joel Waldo

Posted by: Joel Waldo
Relationship: Crew Chief
May 31, 1999

A Note from The Virtual Wall

Four men from B Troop, 1/9th Cavalry were killed when UH-1B tail number 64-14080 was shot down 15 kilometers north of Bong Son:

CPT George B. Rusnak, Philipsburg, PA
WO Richard Patterson, Pennsauken, NJ
SGT Paul E. Ream, Ohio City, OH
PFC Calvin D. Maberry, Sylvester, TX

From www.flyarmy.org

RUSNAK GEORGE BERNARD

Name: CPT George Bernard Rusnak

Status: Killed In Action from an incident on 03/22/1967 while performing the duty of Aircraft Commander.

Age at death: 29.5

Date of Birth: 09/30/1937

Home City: Philipsburg, PA

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

Unit: B/1/9 CAV 1 CAV

Major organization: 1st Cavalry Division

Flight class: 66-12

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

The Wall location: 17E-024

Aircraft: UH-1B tail number 64-14080

Service number: O5406694

Country: South Vietnam

MOS: 61204

Primary cause: Hostile Fire

Major attributing cause: aircraft connected not at sea

Compliment cause: fire or burns

Vehicle involved: helicopter

Position in vehicle: passenger

Started Tour: 09/30/1966

"Official" listing: helicopter air casualty - non-aircrew

Length of service: 04

Location: Binh Dinh Province II Corps.

Reason: aircraft lost or crashed

Casualty type: Hostile - died while missing

married 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: battle dead Category of personnel: active duty Army Military class

This record was last updated on 07/21/2001

Helicopter UH-1B 64-14080

Information on U.S. Army helicopter UH-1B tail number 64-14080

The Army purchased this helicopter 0865

Total flight hours at this point: 00000943

Date: 03/22/1967

Incident number: 67032222.KIA

Unit: HHT/1/9 CAV

This was a Combat incident. This helicopter was LOSS TO INVENTORY for Close Air Support

While in Target Area this helicopter was attacking at 0300 feet and UNK knots.

South Vietnam

Count of hits was not possible because the helicopter burned or exploded.

Unknown ground fire.

Systems damaged were: FLT CONTROLS, PERSONNEL

Casualties = 04 DOI. .

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:

Defense Intelligence Agency Helicopter Loss database. Survivability/Vulnerability

Information Analysis Center Helicopter database. Also: OPERA, LNOF, 72380, D2397,

CASRP (Operations Report. Lindenmuth Old Format Data Base. Casualty Report.)

Loss to Inventory

Crew Members:

P WO1 PATTERSON RICHARD KIA

CE PFC MABERRY CALVIN DWIGHT KIA

AC CPT RUSNAK GEORGE BERNARD KIA

G SGT REAM PAUL EUGENE KIA

This record was last updated on 05/25/1998



One fine lieutenant

George I have seen your name on the wall and will always remember when we received the news of your passing. You had a bright future here, but am sure that you are doing great work over there as well.

I approved your request for flight school because that's what you wanted.

Posted by: Leo Deege

Relationship: We served together

March 26, 2010