

## MARK STEPHEN STEINER

Class 1B-68

is honored on Panel 38W, Row 53 of  
the Vietnam Veterans Memorial

**Full Name:** MARK STEPHEN STEINER  
**Wall Name:** MARK S STEINER  
**Date of Birth:** 11/11/1948  
**Date of Casualty:** 11/24/1968  
**Home of Record:** OGDEN  
**County of Record:** WEBER COUNTY  
**State:** UT  
**Branch of Service:** ARMY  
**Rank:** 2LT  
**Casualty Country:** SOUTH VIETNAM  
**Casualty Province:** LONG AN



2LT Steiner was assigned to Battery C, 2nd Battalion, 4th Artillery, 9th Infantry Division and served as a Forward Observer with Company A, 2nd Battalion, 60th Infantry. His decorations include the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism.

### A Classmate and Friend

In OCS class 1-68 together. He was at my wedding - 3 days before graduation. We stayed at Ft Sill after graduation...him awaiting RVN orders and me for Flt School orders. Both had new Firebirds...his '68, mine a '67. We both left Sill in mid '68. I heard of his death on Thanksgiving Day...a call from his girlfriend.  
A good person.  
Too young.  
Is not forgotten.

Posted by: Al Meyer  
Relationship: We were close friends  
June 13, 2010

### A Fine Officer

Mark was in my 1-68 class. He was an outstanding candidate and a friend to all. He was only 20 years old. I'll always remember him

Posted by: Robert L Bento  
June 15, 2004

## **Distinguished Service Cross Citation**

STEINER, MARK STEPHEN

Second Lieutenant (Field Artillery), U.S. Army

Company A, 2d Battalion, 60th Infantry Regiment, 9th Infantry Division

Date of Action: November 24, 1968

The Distinguished Service Cross is presented to Mark Stephen Steiner, Second Lieutenant (Field Artillery), U.S. Army, for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam, while serving with Company A, 2d Battalion, 60th Infantry, 9th Infantry Division. Second Lieutenant Steiner distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 24 November 1968 while serving as an artillery forward observer on a reconnaissance-in-force mission near Tan Tru, Long An Province. The point element of Lieutenant Steiner's platoon suddenly came under intense automatic weapons fire from a bunker hidden in a woodline, and several men were wounded by the initial volley. Realizing that artillery support might be needed, Lieutenant Steiner moved forward through the withering enemy barrage and discovered that two casualties and the medic who was treating them were completely unprotected. He immediately secured a grenade launcher and began applying suppressive fire while maneuvering towards the aggressors. Inspired by his courage, a machine gun crew joined him as he advanced to within a few feet of the hostile stronghold. Further exposing himself to the communists' fusillade, Lieutenant Steiner attempted to fire his pistol into the bunker and, when the weapon failed to fire, hurled a grenade into the structure's gun port which killed the enemy within. Fire then erupted from a previously undetected bunker located behind him, killing two men. Realizing that his comrades were in grave danger, Lieutenant Steiner turned and opened fire on the second emplacement to enable the others to reach cover. As he fearlessly engaged the enemy, he was mortally wounded by hostile fire. Second Lieutenant Steiner's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty, at the cost of his life were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

### **I was there**

I was a young green F/O getting broken in with another company on that fateful day. When Mark went down they inserted me as a back-up F/O and fortunately I was able to make contact with an Air Force spotter who directed his jets to bomb that wood-line. And knowing that Mark was there they left him unscathed while completely destroying the woods. Mark truly put his life on the line that day in support of his brothers in arms.

Posted by: Michael D. Morris

Relationship: We served together

January 26, 2009

## MY HEART GOES OUT TO HIS FAMILY

Mark was my replacement as a Forward Observer. I remember the first time I met Mark. I was drenched from having been out in the field. Instead of going to Tan Tru, our base camp, we were taken to Tan An, our headquarters. Mark asked a lot of questions about the group that I was attached to. He asked the Battalion Commander if he could be my replacement. He was a fine looking young man. My heart goes out to his family.

Posted by: Charley Crabtree  
November 29, 2002



**From the wall-usa.com**

I first met Mark at Tan An. He was new in country. I came into his quarters from a long day in the field. He asked what it was like as a forward observer. I told him what a great company I worked for. The next day he asked the Battalion Commander if he could be my replacement. We worked together a couple of weeks before I went to my new assignment. Mark was a fine young man. I think of him often. His family can be extremely proud of him. I thank my God on every remembrance of him.

Charley Crabtree  
Brother-in-arms  
3200 Park Center Drive #1170  
Costa Mesa, CA 92626  
September 12, 2002