

DONALD HERBERT WHITE**CLASS 9-64**

is honored on Panel 19W, Row 27 of
the Vietnam Veterans Memorial

Full Name: DONALD HERBERT WHITE
Wall Name: DONALD H WHITE
Date of Birth: 4/3/1937
Date of Casualty: 8/12/1969
Home of Record: LAFAYETTE
State: CA
Branch of Service: ARMY
Rank: CAPT
Casualty Country: SOUTH VIETNAM
Casualty Province: TAY NINH



CPT White was serving as the Commanding Officer of Battery A, 1st Battalion, 30th Field Artillery, 1st Cavalry Division when he was killed in action. More information about the day he was lost can be found under the Remembrances: "Hard Chargers Remember a Fallen Brother" by Don Schacklette and "Hard Chargers of the 1st Bn 30th FA" by MSG(R) Don Gillotti.

Hard Chargers of the 1st Bn, 30th FA

CPT Don White was the Battery Commander of A Battery, 1st Bn, 30th FA, 1st Cavalry Division, (Airmobile). He was killed while continuing to lead the 45 men and three howitzers with him on LZ BECKY against an enemy ground attack supported by rockets and mortars. He continually exposed himself to enemy fire until mortally wounded. For his bravery he was Posthumously awarded a Silver Star Medal and a Purple Heart. Of the 46 men fighting on LZ BECKY that day, 9 were KIA and 19 were WIA, and all three guns were knocked out of action.

Posted by: MSG (R) Dan Gillotti
Relationship: Served in the same Battalion
August 9, 1999

Hard Chargers Remember A Fallen Brother



CPT White at LZ Becky

The night was an unusually black one. The moon was in its dark phase on 11 August 1969 and the sky was overcast. Visibility was less than 12 meters and the troopers of 2/8 Cav manning the bunkers could barely make out the first string of wire. It was a night that was made to order for the sappers assigned to the 95C Regiment. The barefoot sappers had only made their way through the outer string of wire when they were spotted.

When the bunkers opened up the base of fire elements of the NVA began pelting the base with rocket and mortar fire, and an assault by an estimated two companies of NVA infantry. The 0300 attack was driven back at a cost of 4 KIA and 14 WIA, 7 of the WIA were from A/1/30. Back at the battery rear in Tay Ninh, SSG George E. Snyder had just returned from R&R when he heard about the attack. When he learned that another attack was expected he began rounding up replacements for the wounded in A Battery. Another A Battery NCO, SSG Samuel Abrams, Jr. was also at Phuoc Vinh. SSG Abrams was due to return to the states in two days. When he spotted SSG Snyder, he told him, "You aren't going to go out there and get yourself killed without me". Both men and the replacements boarded the helicopter to FSB Becky. The statement turned out to be prophesy. At 0340 on the 12th of August the NVA hit Becky with a storm of mortar, rocket and RPG rounds. The over 400 rocket and mortar rounds caused most of the casualties sustained by A/1/30 that night. When the battle ended, 1SG Tom Vernor was the ranking man still on his feet although he had been wounded twice. The battery had suffered 9 KIA and 19 WIA. Among those listed as KIA were SSG Snyder (Chief of Section, #2 Gun) and SSG Abrams (Chief of Section, #3 Gun). Greater love hath no man.

We lost Don White early in the fight, as usual he was in the thick of it leading. Rest In Peace Don.

Posted by: Don Shacklette
February 1, 2002

By Fellow 9- 64 Classmate

Donald formed a special brotherly bond with all our class in mid 64. In turn, all that graduated OCS at any time formed another type of special bond. We miss you Donald. We miss the good work you could have completed which the OCS experience taught us.

Posted by: Peter Lorenz (9-1964)
Relationship: We served together
May 16, 2005

From thewall-usa.com

A Fine and Brave Leader

I only knew you briefly during our tour in Vietnam, but I felt that I had to recognize your bravery that night that you fell. Although I was on another LZ (Caroline), I knew the hell that A Battery suffered that night. Rest in peace comrade.

Jerry Hock
served with him with 1/30 Artillery
Forest Hill, MD 21050
January 02, 2003

