

BRUCE EDGAR YATES**CLASS 8-65**

is honored on Panel 12E, Row 40 of
the Vietnam Veterans Memorial

Full Name: BRUCE EDGAR YATES
Wall Name: BRUCE E YATES
Date of Birth: 11/15/1940
Date of Casualty: 11/7/1966
Home of Record: ALAMEDA
State: CA
Branch of Service: ARMY
Rank: 1LT
Casualty Country: SOUTH VIETNAM
Casualty Province: PR & MR UNKNOWN



1LT Yates was a Forward Observer with Battery C, 1st Battalion, 21st Artillery, 1st Cavalry Division at the time of his death.

You've been on my mind since we last met

Bruce and I attended Basic, AIT and OCS together. As I remember he was set back so he graduated with the OCS class after mine and I lost all track of him. I saw Bruce again in October of 1966 in an LZ somewhere in the western central highlands as I remember. He was an FO as was I though in different units which by coincidence cohabitated the same LZ briefly. We talked as old friends do. He was rather reserved and before we parted to attend to our respective duties he said "Dave, I'm not going to get out of here alive." I said "sure you will" or words to that effect. We parted and I never saw him again. Some weeks later I heard from another OCS classmate, that Bruce had been killed. His words have haunted me ever since. Years ago I visited the Wall with my then 10 year old son and "talked" to Bruce again. He was a fine man and I will never forget him.

Posted by: David Stone
February 28, 2003

**Bruce is buried at Golden Gate National Cemetery in San Bruno, California
Section B Site 12-A**

Bruce the Candidate Bull

Bruce was in Class 8-65 at the F/Arty OCS at Ft. Sill. I was a class behind him and suffered under the harassment of those who were in his class and because he was in my barracks, Bruce was really tough. I remember one day when I, several years older than Bruce, was really discouraged and was on my knees, cleaning the latrine. He came in and started to eat me up for what he perceived to be less than perfect effort. I guess he knew I was close to breaking, because he stopped and sat down and talked to me, man to man. While I cannot remember his exact words, I do know that he encouraged me and told me that I had special talents that would make me a good officer. He gave me a special boost when I most needed it.

I left OCS without a commission, but achieved success as a Warrant Officer. I happened to be selected to carry the flag for the Ft. Belvoir contingent, when the Wall was dedicated. After we had marched through DC to the memorial, I walked to the wall and it was then that I realized that Bruce had been killed. I rubbed my hand on his name and cried for a long time. Bruce Yates was a good man, who had a hand in changing my life. I am sitting here writing, wondering if there are any others in this world who remember Bruce Yates. God Bless Him.

Posted by: Richard A. Stender
November 15, 2002

Bruce E. Yates

It has been 42 years since I last seen Bruce. We were with the 11th Cav at Ft Meade MD. We were on the football team that the 1st Sq. put together. I found out about Bruce's death in December of 1966 by another friend Bill Hyatt, whom I still have contact with, a good friend. It took me until March of this year to find out where his remains are buried, and my wife and I made a trip to the Bay Area to make our first visit. I think about him and the antics that we pulled while at Fort Knox and Fort Meade, I really wish he were here, but it isn't to be. Rest easy ol friend, Bill and I will have a drink or two in remembrance of you.

Posted by: Tom Rose
November 7, 2008

