

**ROBERT SCOTT BYRNES**

Class 20-66

**ROBERT SCOTT BYRNES**  
is honored on Panel 38E, Row 46 of  
the Vietnam Veterans Memorial

**Full Name:** ROBERT SCOTT BYRNES  
**Wall Name:** ROBERT S BYRNES  
**Date of Birth:** 12/16/1944  
**Date of Casualty:** 2/9/1968  
**Home of Record:** CARMICHAEL  
**County of Record:** SACRAMENTO COUNTY  
**State:** CA  
**Branch of Service:** ARMY  
**Rank:** 1LT  
**Casualty Country:** SOUTH VIETNAM  
**Casualty Province:** QUANG NAM



1LT Byrnes was assigned to Battery A, 3rd Battalion, 82nd Artillery, 196th Light Infantry Brigade. He was killed in action during a firefight while serving as a Forward Observer with Company D, 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry. The Tet Offensive began in late January 1968 and heavy fighting continued through February. In Quang Nam Province, the 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry, lost fourteen men near Lo Giang on 9 Feb 1968

**Officer Candidate School**

I first met Bob when we started Officer Candidate School at Fort Sill OK, in September of 1965. Over the six months of OCS, Bob and I became close friends. Bob had a tremendous vitality for life and had an honesty and passion and most of all leadership that was very recognizable. The two of us came from different parts of the country and really had little in common, however I will always remember the special friendship that we formed during a very challenging time in our lives. Later in our OCS experience when we were lucky enough to have weekend passes. He had a brand new olds 442 with a 4 speed I would go for rides in Bob's new car, what a car. We had many long talks and shared the feelings that we had about our families and our dreams. Bob was very outgoing and I was not, as we seemed to complement each other and be a good team. In April of 1966 when we became Senior Candidates, Bob and I performed a Smothers Brothers Act during our Senior Candidate Ball, at the Fort Sill Officers Club and just about brought the house down. After May of 1967, I never saw Bob again. He was so good at OCS school they kept Bob, they kept him as a teacher everyone loved Bob at OCS. I served with the 75th Rangers in Vietnam and returned to the States in early January of 1968. After a thirty day leave I was assigned to Fort Benning, Georgia to the Ranger Department.

In February of '68, while reading the Army times in the Day room of the Ranger School I discovered that Bob had been killed. I broke down and cried like a baby. In the years since then I often think about Bob and although it is painful to think of his death I seem to always get a smile on my face when I think about our special friendship and the fun we had together. Bob will always be in my heart and his friendship and his family will be part of who I am forever.

Posted by: Prescott Smith  
Relationship: OCS SCHOOL FORT SILL O.K.  
January 19, 2011

### **Fellow OCS Graduate your classmates will again gather**

Bob Byrnes it will be 42 years to the day that we graduated from OCS at Fort Sill you always had a smile on his face. Bob was a great guy and a friend to all that knew him. I salute 1LT. Robert S. Byrnes and the other graduates from Fort Sill for who were killed in action in Vietnam. God We will bring you flowers, We will share stories of those 6 months we spent together earning those gold bars and afterwards we will raise a glass to all who can't be with us RIP Bob Byrnes

Posted by: Brian Smith  
Relationship: graduated from OCS  
April 28, 2008

### **lost a friend over there 1LT Byrnes that I'll never forget**

Robert, I think of the place every day. Vietnam 1967-68 58,215

Posted by: Ronald Zoerner 67-68  
Relationship: friend and a true officer  
November 2, 2011

## **A Note from The Virtual Wall**

The Tet Offensive began in late January 1968 and heavy fighting continued through February. In Quang Nam Province, the 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry, lost fourteen men near Lo Giang on 09 Feb 1968:

A Co, 2nd Bn, 1st Infantry

SSG Donald J. Haile, Caldwell, ID

SP4 Charles R. Martin, Hogansburg, NY

PFC John J. Palmieri, Riverside, CT

C Co, 2nd Bn, 1st Infantry

SSG Donald D. Alvis, Hope, IN

SSG Norbert P. Holzapfel, Pittsburgh, PA

SGT Alfred H. Bleigh, Sutton, WV

PFC Joseph P. Conklin, Haverstraw, NY

PFC Gerald P. Williams, Oakland, CA

D Co, 2nd Bn, 1st Infantry

SSG William N. Flint, Naples, FL

SGT Lauren J. Heydinger, Norwalk, OH

SGT Willis C. Rheault, Lake Linden, MI

CPL Darrel A. Bondrowski, Boothwyn, PA

CPL Ronald L. Brown, Portsmouth, VA

A Btry, 3rd Bn, 82nd Artillery

**1LT Robert S. Byrnes, Carmichael, CA**