

DOUGLAS LEE FOLEY**CLASS 3-64**

is honored on Panel 2E, Row 72 of
the Vietnam Veterans Memorial

Full Name: DOUGLAS LEE FOLEY
Wall Name: DOUGLAS L FOLEY
Date of Birth: 7/15/1935
Date of Casualty: 9/2/1965
Home of Record: RIDGEWAY
State: VA
Branch of Service: ARMY
Rank: 2LT
Casualty Country: SOUTH VIETNAM
Casualty Province: PR & MR UNKNOWN



2LT Foley was killed when the UH-1B helicopter he was piloting was shot down by enemy machine gun fire west of Ben Cat. The entire four-man crew and eight ARVN soldiers perished in the crash. LT Foley and his crew were serving with the 118th Assault Helicopter Company "Thunderbirds".

From www.flyarmy.org

Eyewitness account of James W. "Bill" Griffin from his personal diary: "The B-52 were to hit an area about 6 miles West of Ben Cat and we are to lift the 5th Recon in to check the damage inflicted by the heavy bombing. We picked up the troops at Phou Loi and started for the L.Z. when Charlie One dropped below the formation and said that he had a momentary loss of power and was going into Ben Cat. I tried to follow him but the formation was ahead of me and I lost sight of him. I arrived at Ben Cat and he was not there, so I gave him a call and he said that he was coming on in. About this time Mr. McCune, who was flying with me said that he saw a helicopter fall and I saw a large burst of flames on the ground about 2 miles south of my position. I headed to the site and circled the wreckage and drew heavy automatic weapons fire in the vicinity. I could see that no one could have escaped from the crash so I went back to Ben Cat and landed. The people on the ground stated that this was the same spot that accounted for another aircraft the day before. Capt. Altomonte (this flight surgeon was involved in almost all operations.) the flight surgeon said that there were about four machine guns opened fire every time that any aircraft flew over this position. Killed in the crash were Lt. Foley, WO Toulouse, plus 8 ARVN and the crew-chief and gunner who were new in the company and I didn't even know them. It appears that the helicopter broke into pieces before hitting the ground. Sure is a mess! 3 Sep 1965"

FOLEY DOUGLAS LEE

Name: 2LT Douglas Lee Foley

Status: Killed In Action from an incident on 09/02/1965 while performing the duty of Pilot.

Age at death: 30.1

Date of Birth: 07/15/1935

Home City: Ridgeway, VA

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

Unit: 118 AML

Major organization: other

Flight class: 65-5

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

The Wall location: 02E-072

Short Summary: Pulled out of formation because of a governor problem. Killed near Ben Cat with WO1 Dale Tooloose AC. Crew - Gill & Zelinko.

Aircraft: UH-1B tail number 62-02046

Call sign: Thunderbirds

Service number: O5406455

Country: South Vietnam

MOS: 1981 = 19 Rotary Wing Aviator (Unit Commander)

Primary cause: Hostile Fire

Major attributing cause: aircraft connected not at sea

Compliment cause: weapons

Vehicle involved: helicopter

Position in vehicle: pilot

Started Tour: 06/30/1965

"Official" listing: helicopter air casualty - pilot

Length of service: 12

Location: Unknown Province

Reason: aircraft lost or crashed

Casualty type: Hostile - killed

married male U.S. citizen

Race: Caucasian

Religion: Baptist - other groups

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: officer

This record was last updated on 07/29/1994

Helicopter UH-1B 62-02046

Information on U.S. Army helicopter UH-1B tail number 62-02046

Date: 09/02/1965

Incident number: 0C810ACD Accident case number: 0C810 Total Loss Accident

Unit: 118 AML

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

While Enroute this helicopter was at Level Flight at 1700 feet and 075 knots.

South Vietnam

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

Small Arms/Automatic Weapons; Gun launched non-explosive ballistic projectiles less
than 20 mm in size. (12.7MM)

Systems damaged were: PERSONNEL

Casualties = 04 DOI. . Number killed in accident = 12. . Injured = 0. . Passengers = 8

The helicopter Crashed. Aircraft Destroyed.

Both mission and flight capability were terminated.

Burned

costing 193648

Original source(s) and document(s) from which the incident was created or updated:

Defense Intelligence Agency Helicopter Loss database. Army Aviation Safety Center

database. Survivability/Vulnerability Information Analysis Center Helicopter database.

Also: OPERA, UH1P1, 01370, CRAFX, CASRP, JSIDR (Operations Report. Joint

Services Incident Damage Report. Crash Facts Message. Casualty Report.)

Loss to Inventory

Crew Members:

P WO1 TOOLOOSE DALE LEROY KIA

P 2LT FOLEY DOUGLAS LEE KIA

CE PFC ZELINKO GEORGE ALLEN KIA

G CPL GILL DAVID EUGENE KIA

Passengers and/or other participants:

X2 UNK, PAX, 5

X2 UNK, PAX, 5

X2 UNK, PAX, 5

X2 UNK, PAX, 5

X2 UNK, PAX, 5

X2 UNK, PAX, 5

X2 UNK, PAX, 5

X2 UNK, PAX, 5

This record was last updated on 08/24/2001