

WILLIAM BYARD HOLLOWELL**Class 22-52**

is honored on Panel 17E, Row 35 of
the Vietnam Veterans Memorial

Full Name: WILLIAM BYARD HOLLOWELL
Wall Name: WILLIAM B HOLLOWELL
Date of Birth: 4/14/1932
Date of Casualty: 3/24/1967
Home of Record: BIRMINGHAM
State: AL
Branch of Service: ARMY
Rank: CAPT
Casualty Country: SOUTH VIETNAM
Casualty Province: PR & MR UNKNOWN



CPT Hollowell was serving with 1st Battalion, 5th Artillery, 1st Infantry Division when he died as the result of a helicopter crash. He had more than 14 years of service to his nation at the time of his death.

The Philadelphia Daily News - October 30, 2007

William Hollowell joined the Army at age 17 and was a veteran of the Korean War. He grew up in Southwest Philadelphia and played trumpet in the band at John Bartram High School, where he graduated in 1949. He was 34 years old and a captain when he died in a helicopter crash in March 24, 1967. His family moved to South Jersey a year after his high-school graduation. Since his wife was from Birmingham, Ala., where she lived with their two daughters when he died, he originally was listed as being from Alabama.

"In 1987, when Philadelphia's Vietnam Veterans Memorial was dedicated, the Daily News published a special section. In it, we briefly described each of the 630 who were thought to have died in the conflict.

Since then 16 more names have been added to the monument, men who'd been missed at that dedication. Today we honor them by telling their stories."

Posted by: Jim McIlhenney
Relationship: Native Philadelphian & Viet Vet
November 7, 2007

A Fellow

I am proud to say that I served with Bill up until the day he was killed in a helicopter crash. A great soldier and friend.

Posted by: Richard F. Rouse
Relationship: We served together
June 2, 2005

My Brother



Capt. William B. Hollowell was born and raised in Philadelphia, Pa.

Posted by: Ruth A. Hollowell Larr
Relationship: He is my brother
July 12, 2004

A Note from The Virtual Wall

Captain Hollowell received his commission through the Field Artillery Officer Candidate School at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, with Class 22-52. The photo above shows him at that time.

The casualty database says that Captain Hollowell died on 24 March 1967 from injuries received in a helicopter accident but gives neither the date he was injured nor the location. A friend, LTC Richard Rouse, US Army (Ret), has advised that Hollowell was injured on 17 March 1967 when he accompanied the Commander, 1st Bde, 1st Inf Div, on a visit to a newly constructed Special Forces camp. On completion of the visit, as their helo lifted off in heavy dust the pilots lost visual orientation and the helo crashed. Captain Hollowell was hospitalized at the 24th Evacuation Hospital, where he died on 24 March.

The Vietnam Helicopter Pilots' Assn database contains the following entry:

Information on U.S. Army helicopter UH-1D tail number 64-15764

Date: 03/17/67

Accident case number: 670317051 Total loss or fatality Accident

Number killed in accident = 0 Injured = 2 Passengers = 1

Loss to Inventory

Accident Summary: On a night take-off from a dusty field site, the pilots lost visual reference both inside and outside of the aircraft due to dust. The RPM dropped and the AC made a 180 degree left turn to set down. The aircraft hit the ground hard, bounced and rolled over two times to the left. It came to rest on the left side. Engine failure due to fuel contamination.

Although the injured passenger is not identified it seems likely that it was Captain Hollowell ... there is no record of a similar incident between 16 and 18 March inclusive.

Colonel Rouse's recollection - not a certainty, but a recollection - is that the incident occurred at the Bu Dop Special Forces Camp in Phuoc Long Province.



Bill Hollowell and Richard Rouse, Vietnam