

LAWRENCE MICHAEL SULLIVAN

Class 7-69

is honored on Panel 7W, Row 133 of
the Vietnam Veterans Memorial

Full Name: LAWRENCE MICHAEL
SULLIVAN
Wall Name: LAWRENCE M SULLIVAN
Date of Birth: 12/17/1948
Date of Casualty: 10/13/1970
Home of Record: MEMPHIS
County of Record: SHELBY COUNTY
State: TN
Branch of Service: ARMY
Rank: 1LT
Casualty Country: SOUTH VIETNAM
Casualty Province: QUANG NGAI



1LT Sullivan was serving with Battery D, 1st Battalion, 14th Artillery, 198th Light Infantry Brigade, Americal Division at the time of his death.

From the wall-usa.com

Hello Sully

It has been a long time, my friend, since we first met at Martin Army Hospital, Ft. Benning. As I remember you were there due to a sky diving incident, and I just arrived from Camp Zama Japan, after being medevac from Nam. Since I could not get out of the bed, you came and spoke to me. You left shortly afterward and after a couple of months in the hospital I was released and was reassigned to be a XO in a battery shooting support for the Infantry School, and you were in the same battalion but in another battery. From the information on this site it appears you were in the Americal Div and in the same province that I was in. I do not remember how and when I heard of your death but I am still saddened by your death, and that you were not given the chance to live. I have no doubt that you would have made a worthy contribution to our society. Until we meet again, my friend, I pray your spirit has found peace and happiness beyond our understanding.

Doug Dillon
Friend
Feb 13, 2007

I brought him home!

I was Escort Officer for Lt. Sullivan and brought his body home to Memphis in the fall of 1970. I had forgotten his name but remembered that he was an Artillery Officer, like me, and, like me, an OCS graduate. I could tell from his date of rank, April 15, 1969, that he was in the OCS class just ahead of mine.

I wrote away to Ft. Sill for a list of OCS graduates in 1969 and, comparing the list with the list of casualties on this site, I was able to determine that it was Lt. Sullivan whose body I had escorted home.

I'm sure that I was chosen Escort Officer at random but it struck me as fitting that the two of us would have those things in common.

I will always remember the sadness of his funeral. His parents had been divorced and his father, a senior NCO - an SFC, I believe - stood away from the knot of mourners surrounding the grave. His mom, not surprisingly, was inconsolable and I recall how inadequate my remarks to her were when I presented her with the folded American flag that had draped his casket.

When the service had ended and the mourners had drifted away, I saw his father approach the open grave, come to attention and snap the smartest salute to his son that I had ever seen before or, likely, will ever see.

The scene is indelibly etched in my memory and I am so grateful to have witnessed it.

Godspeed, Michael! I'm happy to have found you, again.

Posted by: Joseph A. Ferry, 1LT, FA, US Army
June 17, 2002



Lawrence is buried at Memphis National Cemetery