

is honored on Panel 55E, Row 36 of  
the Vietnam Veterans Memorial

**Full Name:** JOSEPH GEORGE WOLFE  
**Wall Name:** JOSEPH G WOLFE  
**Date of Birth:** 11/6/1944  
**Date of Casualty:** 5/5/1968  
**Home of Record:** PORTLAND  
**County of Record:** WASHINGTON COUNTY  
**State:** OR  
**Branch of Service:** ARMY  
**Rank:** 1LT  
**Casualty Country:** SOUTH VIETNAM  
**Casualty Province:** AM XUGEN



LT Wolfe was assigned to the 221st Reconnaissance Airplane Company, 307th Combat Aviation Battalion, 164th Aviation Group, 1st Aviation Brigade. He was killed when the O-1 Bird Dog he was piloting crashed while flying a low level mail drop at Song Doc Outpost in An Xuyen Province.

***From the Oregonian, Portland OR, Tuesday, 14 May 1968:***

#### **Viet Crash Kills Officer**

Word has been received by Mrs. Chalmere Wolfe, 2215 SE Powell Blvd., that her son Lt. Joseph George Wolfe, was killed 5 May (1968) in an air crash in Vietnam. Lt. Wolfe was born in Portland but was a 1962 graduate of La Grande High School. Prior to entering the Army he was employed by the Union Pacific Railroad and attended Eastern Oregon College. Lt. Wolfe enlisted in the service in May of 1965 and was commissioned in August, 1966. In December, 1967, he married the former Gayle Carroll of Louisville GA. Information from the Defense Department, according to Mrs. Wolfe, was that an aerial observation plane in which Lt. Wolfe was flying near Co Mau was in the Mekong Delta crashed and burned. In addition to his wife and mother, survivors include his father, Chalmere Wolfe, Moscow ID; a brother, Louis, in the Army at El Paso; and a sister, Margueritte, of Moscow. Service is pending.

***From the Oregonian, Portland OR, 3 Oct 1968:***

**Army Lt. Joseph G. Wolfe**, former resident of Portland and La Grande who died 5 May (1968) in Vietnam, has been posthumously awarded a Bronze Star and an Air Medal with an Oak Leaf Cluster.

The Air Medal was awarded in connection with heroism during a search and destroy operation in the Mekong delta 21 Apr (1968) when Lt. Wolfe attacked enemy positions "in the face of overwhelming fire power." He was cited for flying more that 25 aerial missions between 22 Mar and 8 Apr (1968).

The Bronze Star was presented for Lt. Wolfe's valor in ground action between 17 Mar to 5 May (1968).

A graduate of La Grande High School, Lt. Wolfe attended Eastern Oregon College and was employed by Union Pacific prior to his enlistment in 1965.

***From www.thewall-usa.com***

**I remember Joe**

Joe and I were always paired up together in Flight School, because our last names begin with the letter "W". Joe was a genuine, nice guy, and a hero. He had a ready smile for everyone. I will never forget the day in Vietnam when I heard he had crashed. It was like the earth stood completely still, and everything froze. Joe was too young, too bright, too full of potential to die. God bless you, Joe. Welcome home.

Aubrey White  
Classmate in flight school  
913 Michigan Avenue  
Lynn Haven, FL 32444 USA  
June 07, 2003

