

**EXTRACTS
FROM
UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY HEROES**

COMPILED BY
C. DOUGLAS STERNER
REVISED AND UPDATED (APRIL 2022)
(MINOR NONSUBSTANTIVE REVISIONS WITHIN THIS DOCUMENT)

See www.herobooks.org or www.amazon.com for C. Douglas Sterner's 6 volume book of all USMA graduates who have been awarded the Medal of Honor, Distinguished Service Cross, or Silver Star

If you aren't listed herein, it's likely that your USMA Register does not accurately reflect your awards. If so, please update your Register entry and send a copy of your citation to Dale Hansen (dalewhansen@gmail.com) who will update this document.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS



BENSON, JOHN OSCAR

John Benson graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, Class of 1968. He retired as a U.S. Army Colonel.

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, July 9, 1918 (amended by act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Distinguished Service Cross to First Lieutenant (Infantry) John Oscar Benson, United States Army, for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam, while serving with Company A, 5th Battalion, 60th Infantry, 9th Infantry Division. First Lieutenant Benson distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 3 August 1969 while serving as platoon leader during an airmobile reconnaissance operation in the Plain of Reeds. As the members of his element moved through the area, they came under a devastating barrage of hostile rocket-propelled grenade and machine gun fire which wounded two soldiers. Rushing through the strafing fusillade, Lieutenant Benson reached the two casualties, one of whom he carried to a sheltered position to receive medical aid. He then returned for the second injured infantryman. When the wounded had been cared for, Lieutenant Benson organized his platoon for an assault on the hostile fortifications and called in artillery and gunships. Despite the supporting fire, the element remained pinned down by enemy bullets. As he directed another air strike, the rest of his unit was inserted behind the enemy in order to effect a sweeping maneuver. When the additional members of the company also became pinned down, Lieutenant Benson crawled forward to the communist bunkers. Throwing hand grenades with precision, he silenced the machine gun emplacement. First Lieutenant Benson's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty



were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

- Headquarters, U.S. Army, Vietnam, General Orders No. 3595 (September 22, 1969)

Born: Georgia

Home Town: Columbia, South Carolina

Personal Awards: Distinguished Service Cross (Vietnam), 2 Silver Stars (Vietnam), 2 Legions of Merit, 2 Purple Hearts

SILVER STAR



ADAMS, RONALD KEMP

Ronald Adams graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, Class of 1968. He retired in 1992 as a U.S. Army Lieutenant Colonel.

Synopsis: The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to Second Lieutenant (Infantry) Ronald Kemp Adams, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Second Lieutenant Adams distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions while serving as a platoon leader with the 4th Infantry Division, in action against the enemy in 1969 and 1970. The gallant actions and dedicated devotion to duty demonstrated by Second Lieutenant Adams, without regard for his own life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army.

- United States Military Academy Register of Graduates

Born: Iowa

Home Town: Greenfield, Tennessee

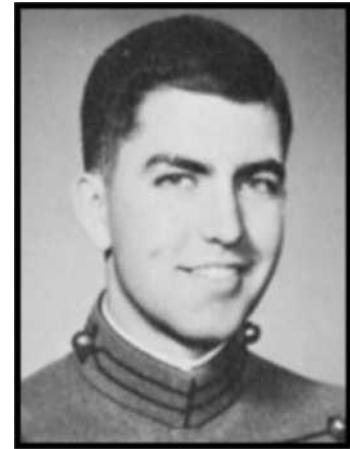
Personal Awards: Silver Star (Vietnam)



ANDERSON, JOHN LEWIS

John Anderson graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, Class of 1968. He retired in 1997 as a U.S. Army Reserve Brigadier General.

Synopsis: The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to First Lieutenant (Infantry) John Lewis Anderson, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Anderson distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions while serving with the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) in action against the enemy in 1969 and 1970. The gallant actions and dedicated devotion to duty demonstrated by First Lieutenant Anderson, without regard for his own life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army.



- United States Military Academy Register of Graduates

Born: Kentucky

Home Town: Mayfield, Kentucky

Personal Awards: Silver Star (Vietnam), 4 Bronze Stars w/V, 3 Air Medals

BACHMAN, WILLIAM ALAN

William Bachman graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, Class of 1968. He resigned in 1978 as a U.S. Army Captain, and was subsequently retired in 1991 as an Army National Guard Colonel.

Synopsis: The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to First Lieutenant (Armor) William Alan Bachman, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Bachman distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions while serving with the 1st Battalion, 20th Cavalry Regiment, 4th Infantry Division, in action against the enemy in 1969 and 1970. The gallant actions and dedicated devotion to duty demonstrated by First Lieutenant Bachman, without regard for his own life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army.



- United States Military Academy Register of Graduates
Born: California
Home Town: Omaha, Nebraska

Personal Awards: Silver Star (Vietnam)

BAERMAN, VINCENT PAUL

Vincent Baerman graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, Class of 1968. He retired in 1994 as a U.S. Army Colonel.



The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to First Lieutenant (Armor) Vincent Paul Baerman, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force on 6 September 1969, while serving as Acting Troop Commander of Troop C, 1st Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, in the Republic of Vietnam. On this date Troop C came in contact with a large enemy force firing a heavy barrage of mortar and rocket fire which destroyed the commander's track and injured Lieutenant Baerman. Lieutenant Baerman quickly took command of the situation, forming the troop on line to provide covering and suppressive fire and directing the evacuation of the wounded troop commander and his crew. Lieutenant Baerman then turned his attention to consolidating his forces and moving forward through the thick undergrowth in an assault on the enemy positions. Lieutenant Baerman's leadership and skillful organization of his men resulted in the defeat of the enemy force. First Lieutenant Baerman's actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit and the United States Army.

- Headquarters, II Field Force Vietnam, General Orders No. 1391 (April 3, 1970), Amended by G.O. 1994 (1970)

Born: Michigan

Home Town: Concord, New Hampshire

Personal Awards: Silver Star (Vietnam), 2 Legions of Merit, 5 Bronze Stars w/V, Purple Heart

BAIRD, JAMES THOMAS

James Baird graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, Class of 1968. He died in 1995 while serving as a U.S. Army Colonel.

Synopsis: The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to First Lieutenant (Infantry) James Thomas Baird, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Baird distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions while serving as a platoon leader in an Infantry company of the 46th Infantry Regiment, 23rd Infantry Division (Americo) in action against the enemy in 1969. First Lieutenant Baird crawled forward under fire, destroyed two enemy emplacements, and rallied his platoon to overrun a third. The gallant actions and dedicated devotion to duty demonstrated by First Lieutenant Baird, without regard for his own life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army.



- United States Military Academy Register of Graduates
Born: August 21, 1945 at Toledo, Ohio Home Town: Toledo, Ohio
Death: DNB: January 22, 1995
Buried at: Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia

Personal Awards: Silver Star (Vietnam), 2 Defense Superior Service Medals, 2 Bronze Stars, 2 Air Medals

BENEFIELD, MICHAEL EDWARD

Michael Benefield graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, Class of 1968. He resigned in 1973 as a U.S. Army Captain.

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to First Lieutenant (Field Artillery) Michael Edward Benefield, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Benefield distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous action on 13 July 1969, while serving as Forward Observer with Company B, 1st Battalion (Airmobile), 12th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile). In Tay Ninh Province, Republic of Vietnam. When a patrol was engaged by a large enemy force entrenched in bunkers, the patrol became disorganized. First Lieutenant Benefield attempted to establish radio contact with the patrol but his attempts proved unsuccessful. Realizing the patrol's need for leadership, he left the safety of his covered position and moved through intense hostile fire to the contact area. He then directed his men to the most advantageous positions and was successful in organizing the withdrawal of the patrol. Although wounded, he remained at the contact site to direct tube and aerial rocket artillery which silenced the enemy. His gallant action is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

- Headquarters, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), General Orders No. 15368 (December 4, 1969)
Born: Arkansas
Home Town: Osceola, Arkansas

Personal Awards: Silver Star (Vietnam), 2 Bronze Stars w/V, Purple Heart, 2 Air Medals



BENSON, JOHN OSCAR

John Benson graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, Class of 1968.
He retired in 1994 as a U.S. Army Colonel.

First Award

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to First Lieutenant (Infantry) John Oscar Benson, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving close combat with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Benson distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 10 July 1969 while serving as a platoon leader with Company A, 5th Battalion, 60th Infantry Regiment, 9th Infantry Division, on an air mobile operation in the Plain of Reeds. While moving into heavy undergrowth, the platoon came under devastating automatic weapons and small arms fire, effectively immobilizing them. Boldly crawling forward under intense hostile fire, First Lieutenant Benson moved from man to man to maintain control and establish effective return fire. When he saw that some of his men were wounded, he risked his life to move through the withering enemy fire to aid in their evacuation. Realizing that return fire alone was insufficient, First Lieutenant Benson courageously led his platoon on an advance that succeeded in routing the enemy. First Lieutenant Benson's extraordinary heroism in close combat with an armed hostile force is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the 9th Infantry Division, and the United States Army.

• Headquarters, 9th Infantry Division, General Orders No. 10673 (July 21, 1969)



Second Award

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting a Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster in lieu

of a second award of the Silver Star to First Lieutenant (Infantry) John Oscar Benson, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force on 11 October 1969, while serving as a platoon leader with Company E, 5th Battalion, 60th Infantry Regiment, 3d Brigade, 9th Infantry Division, in the Republic of Vietnam. On this date his platoon was divided into three teams to conduct raids on intelligence targets. While two of the teams were approaching targets, they reported enemy movement to Lieutenant Benson and soon opened fire. Upon reaching the scene of the contact, he spotted a Viet Cong and quickly eliminated him. As Lieutenant Benson's boat was moving out from the shore, it came under intense enemy fire from the opposite side of the river. Although the enemy was covering his boat with heavy machine gun and rocket-propelled grenade fire, he stood up and marked the enemy positions with tracer fire to guide supporting aircraft. First Lieutenant Benson's actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit and the United States Army.

- Headquarters, II Field Force Vietnam, General Orders No. 4922 (December 28, 1969)

Born: Georgia

Home Town: Columbia, South Carolina

Personal Awards: Distinguished Service Cross (Vietnam), 2 Silver Stars (Vietnam), 2 Legions of Merit, 2 Purple Hearts

BOWMAN, STEPHEN LEE

Stephen Bowman graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, Class of 1968. He retired in 1996 as a U.S. Army Colonel.

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to First Lieutenant (Infantry) Stephen Lee Bowman, United States Army, for gallantry in ground operations against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 24 August 1969. Lieutenant Bowman distinguished himself while serving as a platoon leader in Company B, 1st Battalion (Airmobile), 506th Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division, during combat operations near the A Shau Valley, Republic of Vietnam. Company B was securing Fire Support Base Berchtesgaden when an enemy sapper force attacked the perimeter. During the initial contact, Lieutenant Bowman was wounded by shrapnel from a rocket propelled grenade and temporarily lost his hearing due to the explosion. Despite his wound, he reacted immediately by placing himself in a fighting position directly in the line of the sapper attack. Maintaining this critical position, he killed four North Vietnamese soldiers who moved as close as five meters to his foxhole. He then moved to a more advantageous position where he could control the movement of his platoon. On numerous occasions, he moved from position to position supervising redistribution of ammunition and offering encouragement to his men. It was mainly due to his aggressive leadership that the enemy sappers were routed. Lieutenant Bowman's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest



traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

- United States Military Academy Register of Graduates

Born: September 7, 1946 at Canton, Illinois

Home Town: Canton, Illinois

Death: September 18, 2009

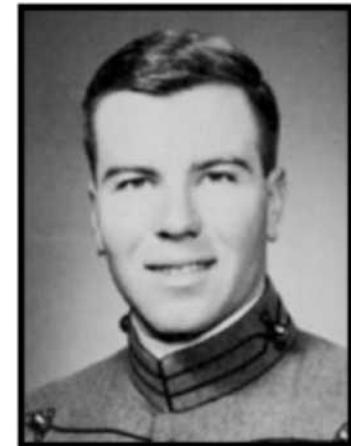
Buried at: U.S. Military Academy Post Cemetery, West Point, New York

Personal Awards: Silver Star (Vietnam), 2 Legion of Merits, Bronze Star, 2 Purple Hearts, 2 Air Medals

BRACE, ROBERT ADRIAN, II

Robert Brace graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, Class of 1968. He retired in 1998 as a U.S. Army Colonel.

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to First Lieutenant (Infantry) Robert Adrian Brace, II, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Brace distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous action on 20 October 1969 while serving as a platoon leader with Company D, 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 5th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), during a protective reaction mission in Tay Ninh Province, Republic of Vietnam. When his company came under intensive automatic weapons fire and rocket fire from an estimated platoon-sized enemy element, during the initial exchange of fire, several casualties were taken. Swiftly and professionally, First Lieutenant Brace maneuvered his platoon on the enemy who were in well concealed bunkers and tree-top sniper positions. With complete disregard for his own safety, First Lieutenant Brace repeatedly exposed himself to hostile fire as he personally went forward and with the assistance of his platoon sergeant retrieved the bodies of the two mortally wounded comrades and one enemy. Through his effective maneuvering of his platoon the wounded were subsequently treated and withdrawn to safety. First Lieutenant Brace personally assisted in the aiding and evacuation of the wounded. Furthermore, his aggressive



leadership contributed immeasurably towards enabling his unit to rout the enemy force. His gallant action is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

- Headquarters, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), General Orders No. 16593 (December 6, 1969)

Born: Ohio

Home Town: Atlanta, Georgia

Personal Awards: Silver Star (Vietnam), 2 Legions of Merit, Bronze Star, Air Medal

BRENNAN, MICHAEL JOSEPH

Michael Brennan graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, Class of 1968.
He retired in 1999 as a U.S. Army Colonel.

Synopsis: The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to First Lieutenant (Infantry) Michael Joseph Brennan, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Brennan distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions while serving with the 1st Battalion, 504th Infantry Regiment, 82d Airborne Division, and subsequently with the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), in action against the enemy in 1969 and 1970. The gallant actions and dedicated devotion to duty demonstrated by First Lieutenant Brennan, without regard for his own life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army.

- United States Military Academy Register of Graduates

Born: Massachusetts

Home Town: Randolph, Massachusetts

Personal Awards: Army Distinguished Service Medal, Silver Star (Vietnam), 2 Legions of Merit, 2 Bronze Stars w/V, Purple Heart, 2 Air Medals



BRODERICK, CHARLES ROBERT, JR.

Charles Broderick graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, Class of 1968. He resigned in 1973 as a U.S. Army Captain but spent another 25 years serving in the U.S. Army Reserves, retiring as a Colonel.

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to First Lieutenant (Infantry) Charles Robert Broderick, Jr., United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Broderick distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions while serving with Company E, 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Division. On 30 September 1969, a small group of four patrol leaders including First Lieutenant Broderick was investigating a proposed ambush site when the point element of a North Vietnamese unit rounded a bend in the trail. Reacting immediately, First Lieutenant Broderick opened fire with his M-16 rifle, killing the enemy point man. He then moved to another position and killed the second man in the enemy column. In the meanwhile, the other three team leaders moved to effective fighting positions and were placing heavy fire on the numerically superior enemy force. The enemy, convinced that they were facing a superior force, abandoned their equipment and dead and fled. First Lieutenant Broderick's personal bravery, aggressiveness, and exemplary devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

- Headquarters, 4th Infantry Division, General Orders No. 6964 (November 14, 1969)

Born: Pennsylvania

Home Town: Allentown, Pennsylvania

Personal Awards: Silver Star (Vietnam), 3 Bronze Stars, 2 w/V, Air Medal, Meritorious Service Medal



BROOKS, BRUCE SAMUEL

Bruce Brooks graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, Class of 1968. He retired in 1988 as a U.S. Army Lieutenant Colonel.

Synopsis: The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to First Lieutenant (Infantry) Bruce Samuel Brooks, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Brooks distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions while serving as Commanding Officer of an Infantry Company of the 25th Infantry Division in action against the enemy in 1969 and 1970. The gallant actions and dedicated devotion to duty demonstrated by First Lieutenant Brooks, without regard for his own life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army.



- United States Military Academy Register of Graduates
Born: January 2, 1946 at Washington, D. C.
Home Town: Key West, Florida
Death: January 4, 2014
Buried at: Arlington National Cemetery - Arlington, Virginia

Personal Awards: Silver Star (Vietnam), Legion of Merit, 3 Bronze Stars w/V, 2 Air Medals

CARLETON, ARDENNE STOTT

Ardenne Carleton graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, Class of 1968. He retired in 1994 as a U.S. Army Colonel. His Silver Star was awarded in Saigon in December 1969, and was pinned on his breast by NASA Astronaut Frank Borman who made a visit to the troops in Vietnam after returning from his orbital flight around the moon.

Synopsis: The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to First Lieutenant (Infantry) Ardenne Stott Carleton, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Carleton distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions while serving as Aide-de-Camp to the Commanding General of the 23d Infantry Division (Americus) in action against the enemy in 1969 and 1970. The gallant actions and dedicated devotion to duty demonstrated by First Lieutenant Carleton, without regard for his own life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army.



- United States Military Academy Register of Graduates

Born: Maine

Home Town: Troy, New York

Personal Awards: Silver Star (Vietnam), Legion of Merit, 4 Bronze Stars w/V, 10 Air Medals

CARRAWAY, DAVID WARREN

David Carraway graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, Class of 1968. He retired in 1992 as a U.S. Army Lieutenant Colonel.

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to First Lieutenant (Armor) David Warren Carraway, United States Army, for gallantry in action. First Lieutenant Carraway distinguished himself by heroic actions on 14 December 1969 while serving with Troop C, 3d Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division, in the Republic of Vietnam. While on a combat operation, elements of Troop C came into contact with a large enemy force. Immediately, First Lieutenant Carraway began to place his men into strategic positions and direct their fire on the advancing aggressors. Seeing his point man seriously injured and pinned down by an enemy sniper, First Lieutenant Carraway, with complete disregard for his own safety, exposed himself to the hail of fire being directed at him as he assaulted the sniper position and silenced it with a deadly burst of M-16 rifle fire. First Lieutenant Carraway then carried his fallen comrade through the bullet swept area to a medical evacuation site. His valorous actions contributed immeasurable to the success of the mission. First Lieutenant Carraway's bravery and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, the 25th Infantry Division, and the United States Army.

- Headquarters, 25th Infantry Division, General Orders No. 1457 (February 6, 1970)

Born: Missouri

Home Town: Upper Darby, Pennsylvania

Personal Awards: Silver Star (Vietnam), 3 Bronze Stars w/V, 4 Air Medals



COHN, DOUGLAS ALAN

Douglas Cohn graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, Class of 1968. He retired with disability in 1970 as a U.S. Army Captain.

First Award

Synopsis: The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to First Lieutenant (Infantry) Douglas Alan Cohn, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Cohn distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions while serving with the 5th Battalion, 7th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) in action against the enemy in 1969 and 1970. The gallant actions and dedicated devotion to duty demonstrated by First Lieutenant Cohn, without regard for his own life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army.

- United States Military Academy Register of Graduates



Second Award

Synopsis: The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting a Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster in lieu of a second award of the Silver Star to First Lieutenant (Infantry) Douglas Alan Cohn, United

States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Cohn distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions while serving with the 5th Battalion, 7th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) in action against the enemy in 1969 and 1970. The gallant actions and dedicated devotion to duty demonstrated by First Lieutenant Cohn, without regard for his own life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army.

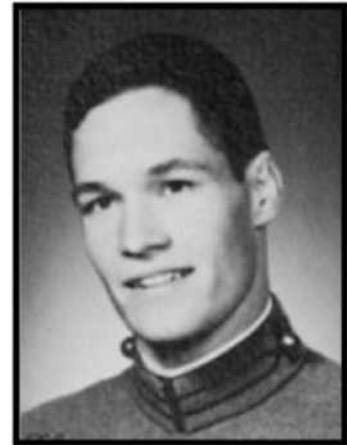
- United States Military Academy Register of Graduates
Born: Oregon
Home Town: Portland, Oregon

Personal Awards: 2 Silver Stars (Vietnam), Bronze Star, 2 Purple Hearts

CRENSHAW, JOHN CARL

John Crenshaw graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, Class of 1968. He retired in 1990 as a U.S. Army Colonel.

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to Second Lieutenant (Field Artillery) John Carl Crenshaw, United States Army, for gallantry in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Second Lieutenant Crenshaw distinguished himself by intrepid actions on 24 May 1969 while serving as a Forward Artillery Observer with Company A, 2d Battalion, 1st Infantry Regiment, 196th Infantry Brigade (Light), 23d Infantry Division (Americus). On that date, the company was conducting routine operations near Nui Yon when it came under intense mortar, rocket propelled grenade, and automatic weapons fire from a concealed enemy fire. In the initial contact, the point man and a platoon leader were wounded, and the main body of the element was pinned down under a heavy volume of fire. With complete disregard for his personal safety, Second Lieutenant Crenshaw rushed to the aid of his wounded comrades. Upon finding that the point man had been mortally wounded, Second Lieutenant Crenshaw maneuvered to the injured platoon leader and carried him across 40 meters of open terrain to a cover position. With the aid of the other members of the platoon, Second Lieutenant Crenshaw then assisted in moving the wounded soldier an additional 100 meters to safety. Throughout this time, he repeatedly exposed himself to enemy fire. His courageous actions were directly responsible for saving the life of his comrade. Second Lieutenant Crenshaw's personal heroism, professional competence, and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon



himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

- Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 5493 (June 22, 1969)

Born: California

Home Town: Los Angeles, California

Personal Awards: Silver Star (Vietnam), Legion of Merit, 2 Bronze Stars w/V, Purple Heart

***CUMMINGS, KENNETH THOMAS [DNB (1969)]**

Kenneth Cummings graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, Class of 1968. He was killed in an air crash in Vietnam in 1969.

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pride in presenting the Silver Star (Posthumously) to First Lieutenant (Infantry) Kenneth Thomas Cummings, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force on 12 August 1969 while serving as a platoon leader with Company D (Ranger), 2d Battalion, 151st Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division, in the Republic of Vietnam. On this date shortly after being airlifted into an open rice paddy area, two companies of the battalion encountered a large enemy force situated in well-concealed fighting positions in a nearby hedgerow. In the initial contact the two companies became pinned down by intense hostile fire and sustained several casualties. While directing his platoon's advance, Lieutenant Cummings repeatedly exposed himself to the enemy fusillade to point out targets and place accurate fire on the hostile troops. Under the cover of his element's counterattack, the friendly casualties were safely evacuated. At one point during the fighting, he spotted a wounded comrade, moved to his aid and carried him two hundred meters through enemy fire to safety and medical assistance. After returning to the center of the contact area, Lieutenant Cummings began directing supporting fire upon the hostile positions. As the friendly force began its final assault, it came under intense machine gun fire from an enemy emplacement in front of his platoon. Disregarding his own safety, he rushed forward through the hostile fire and silenced the position with several hand grenades and a burst from his rifle. First Lieutenant Cummings' outstanding courage, aggressiveness and devotion to duty were



in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit and the United States Army.

- Headquarters, II Field Force Vietnam, General Orders No. 2378 (September 17, 1969)

Born: August 20, 1946 at Brooklyn, New York

Home Town: New York, New York

Death: DNB: September 4, 1969

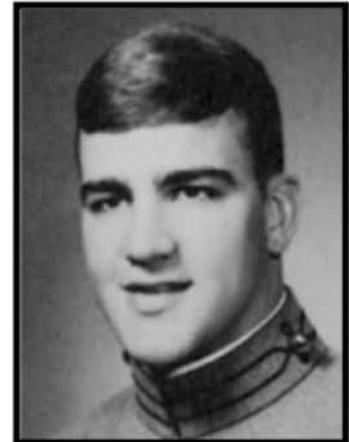
Buried at: Fort Logan National Cemetery, Denver, Colorado

Personal Awards: Silver Star (Vietnam), Bronze Star, Purple Heart

***DARLING, JOHN EDWARD, JR. [KIA (RVN)]**

John Darling graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, Class of 1968. He was killed in action while serving as a U.S. Army First Lieutenant in the Vietnam War.

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pride in presenting the Silver Star (Posthumously) to First Lieutenant (Infantry) John Edward Darling, Jr., United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Darling distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions while serving as Communications Officer of the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 506th Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division, in action against the enemy in April 1970. When his battalion tactical operations center received a direct hit wounding the executive officer and several other men, First Lieutenant Darling immediately assumed command, and then administered first aid to casualties. Braving the impacting rounds, he carried a wounded man to a medical evacuation helicopter, then returned to the command post to direct armed helicopter support of the extraction operation. His actions under fire enabled the prompt evacuation of casualties and forced the withdrawal of the hostile force. The gallant actions and dedicated devotion to duty demonstrated by First Lieutenant Darling, without regard for his own life, were in



keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army.

- United States Military Academy Register of Graduates

Born: October 17, 1946 at Michigan

Home Town: Fremont, Michigan

Death: KIA: May 18, 1970

Buried at: Maple Grove Cemetery, Fremont, Michigan

Personal Awards: Silver Star (Vietnam), Purple Heart

DAVIS, DONALD CRAIG

Donald Davis graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, Class of 1968. He resigned in 1977 as a U.S. Army Captain.

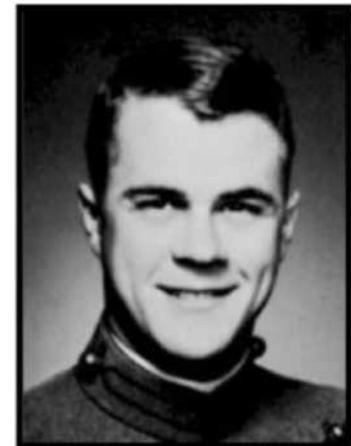
The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to Captain (Infantry) Donald Craig Davis, United States Army, for gallantry in action in support of an element of combat troops of the Republic of Vietnam engaged in military operations with an armed hostile force in Laos. Captain Davis distinguished himself on 20 February 1971 while serving as pilot of a UH-1H lift helicopter of Company C (Assault Helicopter), 158th Aviation Battalion (Assault Helicopter), 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile) during an emergency extraction. While attempting to extract a beleaguered ground element of the Army of Republic of Vietnam, the lead aircraft in Captain Davis' formation came under intense hostile fire and was downed. Subjecting himself to the intense barrage, he immediately piloted his aircraft to the crash site. Placing his aircraft between the enemy positions and the downed helicopter, Captain Davis shielded the crew from the enemy fire. Despite the burning wreckage and threat of explosion, Captain Davis held his aircraft in a steady hover while the downed aircraft commander was safely extracted. While departing the contact area, his aircraft received heavy small arms fire from point blank range. Piloting through the intense barrage, he successfully departed the contact area and flew to a secure firebase. His actions save the life of a fellow aviator. Captain Davis' gallantry in action was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

- Headquarters, 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile), General Orders No. 1816 (March 2, 1971)

Born: California

Home Town: Fremont, California

Personal Awards: Silver Star (Vietnam), Bronze Star, 19 Air Medals



DAY, KENNETH MCALPINE

Kenneth McAlpine Day graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, Class of 1968. He resigned in 1980 as a U.S. Army Reserve Major.

For gallantry in action: The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to First Lieutenant Day for distinguishing himself by heroic actions on 29 August 1969 while serving as a platoon leader with Company C, 4th Battalion, 23d Infantry, in the Republic of Vietnam. While on a night ambush patrol, elements of the 23d Infantry came in contact with a large enemy force. Immediately, Lieutenant Day organized a reactionary force and led them to the area of contact. Realizing that the aggressors were attempting to outflank the small ambush patrol, Lieutenant Day immediately directed his armored personnel carriers into strategic positions and placed devastating fire on the hostile positions. With complete disregard for his own safety, Lieutenant Day exposed himself to the hail of fire as he moved forward and engaged the enemy force. His valorous actions contributed immeasurably to the thwarting of the enemy force. Lieutenant Day's bravery, aggressiveness, and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, the 25th Infantry Division, and the United States Army.

- General Orders, Headquarters, 25th Infantry Division, General Orders 12039 (26 Sep 1969)

Born: Detroit, Michigan

Home Town: Detroit, Michigan

Personal Awards: Silver Star (Vietnam)



DECKER, JAMES GORDON

James Decker graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, Class of 1968. He resigned in 1972 as a U.S. Army Captain.

First Award

Synopsis: The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to First Lieutenant (Infantry) James Gordon Decker, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Decker distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions while serving as an Advisor with Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, in action against the enemy in 1969 and 1970. The gallant actions and dedicated devotion to duty demonstrated by First Lieutenant Decker, without regard for his own life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army.

- United States Military Academy Register of Graduates



Second Award

Synopsis: The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting a Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster in lieu of a second award of the Silver Star to First Lieutenant (Infantry) James Gordon Decker, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Decker distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions while serving as an Advisor with Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, in action against the enemy in 1969 and 1970. The gallant actions and dedicated devotion to duty demonstrated by First

Lieutenant Decker, without regard for his own life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army.

- United States Military Academy Register of Graduates

Born: New York

Home Town: St. Petersburg, Florida

Personal Awards: 2 Silver Stars (Vietnam), Bronze Star, Purple Heart

DODSON, JOHN ANTHONY

John Dodson graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, Class of 1968. He resigned in 1982 as a U.S. Army Major.

Synopsis: The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to First Lieutenant (Corps of Engineers) John Anthony Dodson, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Dodson distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions while serving as Commanding Officer of the 591st Engineer Company, and later with the 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne), 1st Special Forces, in action against the enemy from 1969 to 1971. The gallant actions and dedicated devotion to duty demonstrated by First Lieutenant Dodson, without regard for his own life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army.

- United States Military Academy Register of Graduates

Born: Mississippi

Home Town: Oxford, Mississippi

Personal Awards: Silver Star (Vietnam), 3 Bronze Stars, Air Medal



DODSON, JONATHAN BOYD

Jonathan Dodson graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, Class of 1968. He retired in 1997 as a U.S. Army Colonel.

Synopsis: The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to Captain (Infantry) Jonathan Boyd Dodson, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Captain Dodson distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions while serving as Commanding Officer of Company C, 1st Battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), in action against the enemy in 1969 and 1970. The gallant actions and dedicated devotion to duty demonstrated by Captain Dodson, without regard for his own life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army.



- United States Military Academy Register of Graduates

Born: Louisiana

Home Town: El Paso, Texas

Personal Awards: Army Distinguished Service Medal, Silver Star (Vietnam), Legion of Merit, 4 Bronze Stars w/V, 2 Purple Hearts, Air Medal

*ERICSON, WILLIAM FORSELL, II (KIA (RVN)

William Ericson graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, Class of 1968. He was killed in action a year after graduation while serving as a U.S. Army First Lieutenant during the Vietnam War.

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pride in presenting the Silver Star (Posthumously) to First Lieutenant (Infantry) William Forsell Ericson, II, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations against an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 15 July 1969 while serving as platoon leader with the 1st Platoon, Company A, 1st Battalion, 503d Infantry, 173rd Airborne Brigade (Separate). On that day at approximately 2035 hours, the platoon's night position was attacked by a Viet Cong force of unknown size. Lieutenant Ericson, the first to detect the enemy movement, gave the alarm causing the enemy to prematurely initiate the assault. His quick thinking and action saved members of his platoon from being seriously wounded. Immediately after the assault. Lieutenant Ericson personally led a patrol out to locate the elusive enemy force. After traveling approximately one hundred meters, his patrol came under attack. This time Lieutenant Ericson charged the enemy position alone. While performing this courageous act, he was fatally wounded. Lieutenant Ericson's extraordinary heroism in close combat against a numerically superior force was in keeping with the best traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit and the United States Army.



- United States Military Academy Register of Graduates
Born: February 23, 1944 at New York, New York
Home Town: Roxbury, Connecticut
Death: KIA: July 15, 1969
Buried at: U.S. Military Academy Post Cemetery - West Point, New York

Personal Awards: Silver Star (Vietnam), Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Air Medal

GADDIS, WALTER DONALD, JR.

Walter Gaddis graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, Class of 1968. He retired in 1979 as a U.S. Army Captain.

Synopsis: The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to First Lieutenant (Infantry) Walter Donald Gaddis, Jr., United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Gaddis distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions while serving with the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) in action against the enemy in 1969 and 1970. The gallant actions and dedicated devotion to duty demonstrated by First Lieutenant Gaddis, without regard for his own life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army.

- United States Military Academy Register of Graduates

Born: Wyoming

Home Town: Laramie, Wyoming

Personal Awards: Silver Star (Vietnam), Bronze Star, 2 Purple Hearts, Air Medal



HAUCK, KENNETH WILLIAM

Kenneth Hauck graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, Class of 1968. He retired in 1988 as a U.S. Army Colonel.

First Award

Synopsis: The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to First Lieutenant (Infantry) Kenneth William Hauck, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Hauck distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions while serving as Platoon leader with the Reconnaissance Platoon, Headquarters Company, 2d Battalion, 47th Infantry Regiment, 9th Infantry Division, in action against the enemy in the Delta southwest of the district capital of Tan An, South Vietnam, in December 1969. The gallant actions and dedicated devotion to duty demonstrated by First Lieutenant Hauck, without regard for his own life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army.

- United States Military Academy Register of Graduates



Second Award

Synopsis: The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting a Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster in lieu of a second award of the Silver Star to First Lieutenant (Infantry) Kenneth William Hauck, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Hauck distinguished himself by

exceptionally valorous actions while serving as Platoon leader with the Reconnaissance Platoon, Headquarters Company, 2d Battalion, 47th Infantry Regiment, 9th Infantry Division, in action against the enemy in the Delta southwest of the district capital of Tan An, South Vietnam, in December 1969. The gallant actions and dedicated devotion to duty demonstrated by First Lieutenant Hauck, without regard for his own life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army.

- United States Military Academy Register of Graduates

Born: New Jersey

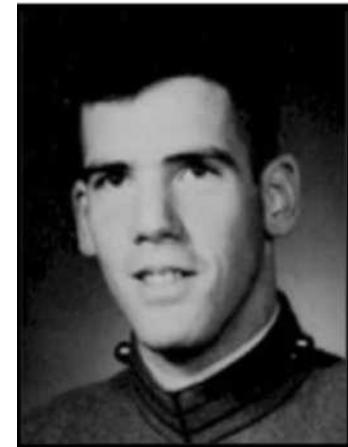
Home Town: Jamestown, New York

Personal Awards: 2 Silver Stars (Vietnam)

HAWKINS, CHARLES FARRING

Charles Hawkins graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, Class of 1968. He retired as a U.S. Army Reserve Major.

Synopsis: The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to Captain (Infantry) Charles Farring Hawkins, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Captain Hawkins distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions while serving as Commanding Officer of Company A, 2d Battalion, 506th Infantry Regiment, 3d Brigade, 101st Airborne Division, in action against the enemy during the Battle of Fire Support Base RIPCORD in July 1970. The gallant actions and dedicated devotion to duty demonstrated by Captain Hawkins, without regard for his own life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army.



- United States Military Academy Register of Graduates

Born: August 1, 1946 at Carmel, California

Home Town: Ninilchik, Alaska

Death: September 13, 2019

Personal Awards: Silver Star (Vietnam), Bronze Star, Purple Heart, 2 Air Medals

HEDLEY, JOHN CHARLES

John Hedley graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, Class of 1968. He retired in 1989 as a U.S. Army Lieutenant Colonel.

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to First Lieutenant (Infantry) John Charles Hedley, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Hedley distinguished himself while serving as a platoon leader with Company E, 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Division. On 6 November 1969, Landing Zone SAINT GEORGE came under heavy enemy ground attack. Reacting immediately, First Lieutenant Hedley left the safety of the command bunker to check the security of the perimeter. Once he had assured himself of the perimeter security, First Lieutenant Hedley ran across the battalion area to check out the rest of the base. As he approached the motor pool, First Lieutenant Hedley observed three suspicious individuals. Not wanting to fire on his own men, First Lieutenant Hedley maneuvered for a closer look. When he was within ten meters of the individuals he determined that they were enemy soldiers and immediately opened fire, killing all three. He then continued to move about the base checking on wounded personnel. Seeing two of his men pinned down by enemy fire, First Lieutenant Hedley exposed himself to the enemy fire to draw their fire away from the men. This allowed them to move to better positions. First Lieutenant Hedley's courageous actions, extraordinary performance, and



exemplary devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

- Headquarters, 4th Infantry Division, General Orders No. 7788 (December 11, 1959)

Born: New York

Home Town: Rochester, New York

Personal Awards: Silver Star (Vietnam), 3 Bronze Stars w/V, Air Medal

JONES, DAVID STANLEY

David Jones graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, Class of 1968.

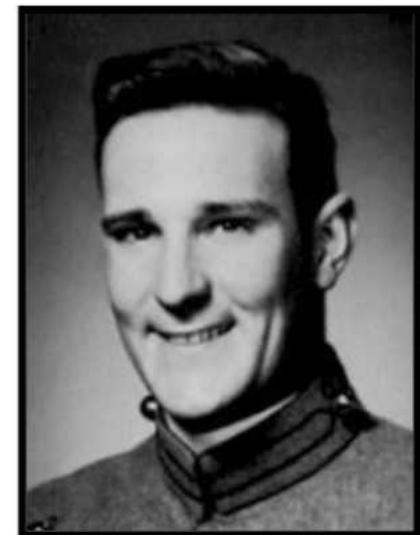
The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to Captain (Infantry) David Stanley Jones, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Captain Jones distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions while serving as Commanding Officer of an Infantry company of the 23rd Infantry Division (Americal), in action against the enemy in 1971. Captain Jones led his men in the rescue of an embattled South Vietnamese Army unit. Ignoring the danger involved, Captain Jones unhesitatingly braved the enemy fusillade while maneuvering among the elements of his unit, rallying his men and directing offensive operations until the insurgents were completely routed from his sector of the battlefield. Through his timely and courageous actions, he was responsible for the defeat of a large, hostile force, and minimized friendly casualties. The gallant actions and dedicated devotion to duty demonstrated by Captain Jones, without regard for his own life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army.

- United States Military Academy Register of Graduates

Born: Connecticut

Home Town: Franklin Square, New York

Personal Awards: Silver Star (Vietnam)



JORDAN, LARRY REGINALD

Larry Jordan graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, Class of 1968. He retired in 2003 as a U.S. Army Lieutenant General.

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to First Lieutenant (Armor) Larry Reginald Jordan, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force while serving with Headquarters Company, 2d Battalion (Mechanized), 2d Infantry Regiment, 1st Infantry Division, in the Republic of Vietnam on 23 November 1968. On this date, First Lieutenant Jordan was serving with his mechanized unit on a reinforcement operation in the Michelin Rubber Plantation. After another friendly company had made contact with an enemy base camp and had been pinned down, First Lieutenant Jordan's unit maneuvered with their tracks to the point of contact. When he had reached his beleaguered comrades, First Lieutenant Jordan brought the 50 caliber machine guns into operation and instantly placed devastating accurate fire upon the insurgent emplacements. With tactical deliberation, he then led his unit on a deliberate assault of the aggressor positions. First Lieutenant Jordan risked his life as he personally placed suppressive machinegun fire from his track and simultaneously directed the destruction of enemy bunkers with hand grenades. Continuing to disregard the hostile fire raking the area, he coordinated the assault of the enemy positions using the combined strength of the infantry and his mechanized unit until many of the insurgent strongholds were silenced. When the last remaining insurgent emplacement began placing heavy rocket-propelled grenade fire on the friendly unit, First Lieutenant Jordan quickly placed his heavy machinegun fire on the position and directed its destruction with recoilless rifle fire. His courageous initiative and exemplary professionalism significantly contributed to the death



of 32 enemy soldiers and the success of the encounter. First Lieutenant Jordan's unquestionable valor in close combat against a hostile force is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the 1st Infantry Division, and the United States Army.

- Headquarters, 1st Infantry Division, General Orders No. 16331 (December 16, 1969)

Born: Kansas

Home Town: Kansas City, Missouri

Personal Awards: Army Distinguished Service Medal, Silver Star (Vietnam), Legion of Merit, 2 Bronze Stars

KRUGER, JOHN DANIEL

John Kruger graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, Class of 1968. He resigned in 1978 as a U.S. Army Major.

Synopsis: The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to First Lieutenant (Infantry) John Daniel Kruger, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Kruger distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions while serving as a platoon leader of the 2d Platoon, Company C, 2d Battalion, 47th Infantry Regiment (Mechanized), 9th Infantry Division, in action against the enemy in the Binh Phouc District, Long An Province, Republic of Vietnam, on 12 June 1969. The gallant actions and dedicated devotion to duty demonstrated by First Lieutenant Kruger, without regard for his own life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army.

- United States Military Academy Register of Graduates
Born: Pennsylvania
Home Town: Los Alamitos, California

Personal Awards: Silver Star (Vietnam), 2 Bronze Stars w/V, Purple Heart, Air Medal



KULPA, NORMAN DONALD

Norman Kulpa graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, Class of 1968. He resigned in 1973 as a U.S. Army Captain.

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to Captain (Armor) Norman Donald Kulpa, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Captain Kulpa distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 19 June 1970 while serving as Commanding Officer of Troop B, 1st Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, in the Republic of Vietnam. On this date, Troop B was located at their night defensive position when they came under an intense attack of rockets, mortars and rocket-propelled grenades delivered by a large enemy force. Captain Kulpa immediately rushed to his command vehicle and positioned himself in an exposed position while commanding his unit during the three hour attack. During the course of the engagement Captain Kulpa directed all elements of his unit in placing effective fire against enemy locations. He directed reinforcing elements, including artillery from the squadron fire support base and gunships, and also aided the medics by directing them to the wounded and calling medical aid aircraft. Throughout the fierce attack Captain Kulpa kept his men reassured. His calmness throughout the attack aided in the control of suppressive fire and the coordination of supporting fire. Captain Kulpa's gallantry in actions was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit and the United States Army.



• Headquarters, II Field Force, Vietnam, General Orders No. 28 (January 5, 1971)

Born: Ohio

Home Town: Wheeling, West Virginia

Personal Awards: *Silver Star (Vietnam), 5 Bronze Stars w/V*

LOWER, ROBERT SPENCER

Robert Lower graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, Class of 1968. He retired in 1989 as a U.S. Army Lieutenant Colonel.

Synopsis: The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to Captain (Armor) Robert Spencer Lower, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Captain Lower distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions while serving as an Advisor in I Corps, Military Assistance Command Vietnam, in action against the enemy on 10 February 1971. The gallant actions and dedicated devotion to duty demonstrated by Captain Lower, without regard for his own life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army.



- Headquarters, Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, General Orders No. 2036 (1971)

Born: Texas

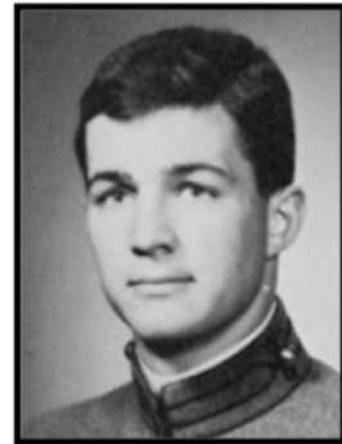
Home Town: Sacramento, California

Personal Awards: Silver Star (Vietnam), Legion of Merit, Bronze Star

LYNCH, WILLIAM RAY, III

William Lynch graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, Class of 1968. He retired in 1998 as a U.S. Army Colonel.

Synopsis: The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to First Lieutenant (Infantry) William Ray Lynch, III, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Lynch distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions while serving with the 1st Infantry Division and subsequently with the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), in action against the enemy in 1969 and 1970. The gallant actions and dedicated devotion to duty demonstrated by First Lieutenant Lynch, without regard for his own life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army.



- United States Military Academy Register of Graduates

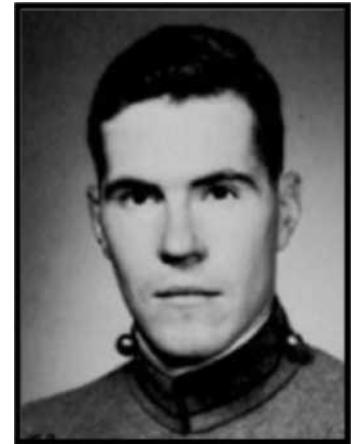
Born: Georgia

Home Town: Columbus, Georgia

Personal Awards: Silver Star (Vietnam), Legion of Merit, 4 Bronze Stars, Purple Heart, 2 Air Medals

*MADDUX, DAVID THORNTON |KIA (RVN)|

David Maddux graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, Class of 1968. He was killed in action while serving as a U.S. Army Captain during the Vietnam War.



Synopsis: The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pride in presenting the Silver Star (Posthumously) to Captain (Armor) David Thornton Maddux, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Captain Maddux distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions while serving as Commanding Officer of Troop A, 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment, 23rd Infantry Division (Americo), in action against the enemy on 9 August 1970, in Quang Nam Province, Vietnam. On that date, four of Captain Maddux's soldiers attempted to cross a minefield near Hawk Hill, Vietnam, and were wounded. In order not to endanger the lives of others of his soldiers, Captain Maddux, without thought for his own personal safety, volunteered to personally undertake the evacuation of the wounded. While engaged in this valiant effort, Captain Maddux activated another concealed mine and was killed in action. The gallant actions and dedicated devotion to duty demonstrated by Captain Maddux, without regard for his own life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army.

- United States Military Academy Register of Graduates
Born: August 5, 1946 at Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma
Home Town: Racine, Wisconsin
Death: KIA: August 9, 1970
Buried at: U.S. Military Academy Post Cemetery, West Point, New York

Personal Awards: Silver Star (Vietnam), Bronze Star, Purple Heart

MANN, MICHAEL JOHN

Michael Mann graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, Class of 1968. He resigned in 1973 as a U.S. Army Captain.

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to First Lieutenant (Infantry) Michael John Mann, United States Army, for gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam, on 27 August 1969. First Lieutenant Mann distinguished himself while serving as platoon leader of the Reconnaissance Platoon, Company E, 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 501st Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division. On that date, the Reconnaissance Platoon was on an ambush mission and had moved into its site for the night. As his men were making preparations for the ambush, First Lieutenant Mann spotted six hostile soldiers walking on the trail towards them. Reacting quickly, he waved his men off the trail into cover, but apparently not quickly enough to prevent the enemy soldiers from sensing movement. The North Vietnamese Regulars stopped approximately 25 meters from the kill zone and moved off the trail in a flanking movement toward the Reconnaissance Platoon. First Lieutenant Mann, observing this action, took the three men who were positioned closest to him and moved out to intercept the enemy force. He set his men up in a hasty ambush position. The North Vietnamese were a mere 15 meters from them when he led the attack upon them with hand grenades and small arms fire. During the next several minutes, intense fighting ensued. In spite of being subjected to hostile fire, First Lieutenant Mann skillfully directed the fire of his men in such a manner that the surviving North Vietnamese Regulars were soon forced to break contact and flee. First Lieutenant



Mann's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

- United States Military Academy Register of Graduates

Born: California

Home Town: Lead, South Dakota

Personal Awards: Silver Star (Vietnam), Bronze Star w/V, 19 Air Medals

MATHEWS, TONEY ADAMS

Toney Mathews graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, Class of 1968. He resigned in 1973 as a U.S. Army Captain. States of America,

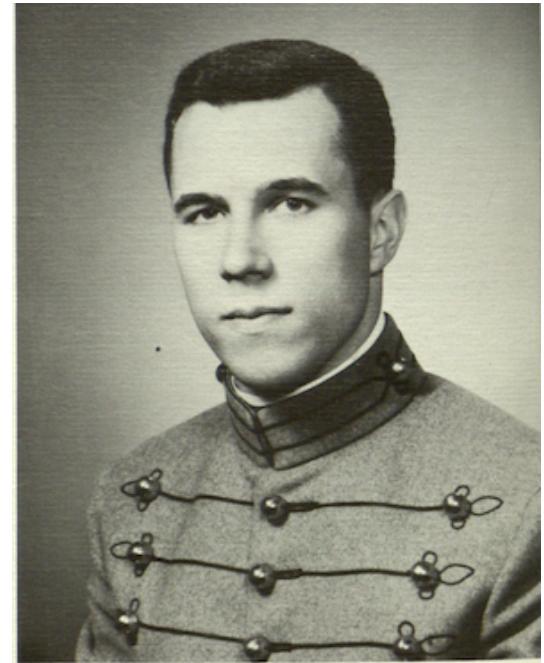
Synopsis: The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to First Lieutenant (Field Artillery) Toney Adams Mathews, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Mathews distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions while serving with the 5th Field Artillery Regiment, 1st Infantry Division, in action against the enemy in 1969 and 1970. The gallant actions and dedicated devotion to duty demonstrated by First Lieutenant Mathews, without regard for his own life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army.

- United States Military Academy Register of Graduates

Born: Mississippi

Home Town: Vicksburg, Mississippi

Personal Awards: Silver Star (Vietnam), 3 Bronze Stars w/V, Purple Heart



MAYER, JOHN DONALD, JR.

John Mayer graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, Class of 1968.

Synopsis: The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to First Lieutenant (Infantry) John Donald Mayer, Jr., United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Mayer distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions while serving with the United States Army, Vietnam, in action against the enemy in 1969 and 1970. The gallant actions and dedicated devotion to duty demonstrated by First Lieutenant Mayer, without regard for his own life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army.



- United States Military Academy Register of Graduates

Born: New York

Home Town: Baltimore, Maryland

Personal Awards: Silver Star (Vietnam), 2 Bronze Stars w/V, Air Medal

MENTE, ALVIN LOUIS, III

Alvin Mente graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, Class of 1968. He resigned in 1980 as a U.S. Army Captain.

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to First Lieutenant (Armor) Alvin Louis Mente, III, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Mente distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions while serving as a platoon leader with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 69th Armored Regiment, 4th Infantry Division. On 26 October 1969, elements of the 69th Armor at Strong Point C came under heavy enemy attack. Reacting immediately, First Lieutenant Mente effectively deployed his armored personnel carriers, and then began to place a tremendous volume of fire on the enemy positions. During the contact, Lieutenant Mente's track was hit by a B-40 rocket, wounding several personnel. With complete disregard for his personal safety, First Lieutenant Mente exposed himself to the heavy enemy fire to pull one man to safety. The enemy, under extreme pressure from the tremendous volume of fire that was being directed at them, withdrew to dug in positions nearby. Without hesitation, First Lieutenant Mente led his men in an assault to flush the enemy from their positions. During this assault, First Lieutenant Mente was seriously wounded and evacuated from the battle. First Lieutenant Mente's courageous actions, outstanding leadership, and exemplary devotion to duty



were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

- Headquarters, 4th Infantry Division, General Orders No. 7582 (December 5, 1969)

Born: Washington, D. C.

Home Town: Bethesda, Maryland

Personal Awards: Silver Star (Vietnam), 2 Bronze Stars, Purple Heart

MURPHY, MAURICE EDWARD, II

Maurice Murphy graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, Class of 1968. He retired in 1992 as a U.S. Army Lieutenant Colonel.

Synopsis: The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to First Lieutenant (Armor) Maurice Edward Murphy, **II**, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Murphy distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions while serving as a platoon leader in Troop B, 1st Squadron, 9th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), in action against the enemy in 1969 and 1970. The gallant actions and dedicated devotion to duty demonstrated by First Lieutenant Murphy, without regard for his own life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army.

- United States Military Academy Register of Graduates Born: October 26, 1946 at Urbana, Illinois Home Town: Rialto, California Death: June 23, 2020
Buried at: Arlington National Cemetery .Arlington, Virginia

Personal Awards: Silver Star (Vietnam), 2 Bronze Stars w/N, Purple Heart, Air Medal



NASH, WILLIAM LAFAYETTE

William Nash graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, Class of 1968. He retired in 1998 as a U.S. Army Major General.

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to First Lieutenant (Armor) William Lafayette Nash, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force on 7 February 1970 while serving as a platoon leader with Troop A, 1st Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, in the Republic of Vietnam. On this date the troop encountered a company size element of North Vietnamese soldiers. During the initial moments of contact, Lieutenant Nash immediately performed a flanking maneuver with his platoon as he led an assault upon the enemy bunkers. Despite the intense rocket propelled grenade, small arms and automatic weapons fire, he exposed himself to a better view of the enemy. Suddenly his vehicle was hit by a rocket propelled grenade injuring him and two crew members. Refusing evacuation he ensured that his crew members received medical attention. Lieutenant Nash resumed the assault and destroyed a rocket propelled grenade team that had been placing accurate fire upon his platoon. He continued to lead his platoon in overrunning the enemy positions and eliminated the insurgent force. First Lieutenant Nash's actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.



- Headquarters, II Field Force Vietnam, General Orders No. 1948 (May 19, 1970)

Born: Arizona

Home Town: New Orleans, Louisiana

Personal Awards: 2 Army Distinguished Service Medals. Silver Star (Vietnam), 3 Legions of Merit. 3 Bronze Stars w/V. Purple Heart

NASH, WILLIAM LAFAYETTE

William Nash graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, Class of 1968. He retired in 1998 as a U.S. Army Major General.

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to First Lieutenant (Armor) William Lafayette Nash, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force on 7 February 1970 while serving as a platoon leader with Troop A, 1st Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, in the Republic of Vietnam. On this date the troop encountered a company size element of North Vietnamese soldiers. During the initial moments of contact, Lieutenant Nash immediately performed a flanking maneuver with his platoon as he led an assault upon the enemy bunkers. Despite the intense rocket propelled grenade, small arms and automatic weapons fire, he exposed himself to a better view of the enemy. Suddenly his vehicle was hit by a rocket propelled grenade injuring him and two crew members. Refusing evacuation he ensured that his crew members received medical attention. Lieutenant Nash resumed the assault and destroyed a rocket propelled grenade team that had been placing accurate fire upon his platoon. He continued to lead his platoon in overrunning the enemy positions and eliminated the insurgent force. First Lieutenant Nash's actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.



- Headquarters, II Field Force Vietnam, General Orders No. 1948 (May 19, 1970)
Bom: Arizona
Home Town: New Orleans, Louisiana

Personal Awards: 2 Army Distinguished Service Medals. Silver Star (Vietnam), 3 Legions of Merit 3 Bronze Stars w/V, Purple Heart

NELSON, DALE RUDOLF

Dale Nelson graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, Class of 1968. He retired in 1999 as a U.S. Army Brigadier General.

Synopsis: The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to First Lieutenant (Infantry) Dale Rudolf Nelson, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Nelson distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions while serving as a Platoon Leader in an Infantry Company of the 2d Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), in action against the enemy in 1969 and 1970. The gallant actions and dedicated devotion to duty demonstrated by First Lieutenant Nelson, without regard for his own life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army.

- United States Military Academy Register of Graduates

Born: New York

Home Town: Lockport, New York

Personal Awards: Army Distinguished Service Medal, Silver Star (Vietnam), 6 Legions of Merit, Soldier's Medal, 3 Bronze Stars, Air Medal



NEYSES, DAVID ANTHONY

David Neyses graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, Class of 1968. He retired in 1995 as a U.S. Army Colonel.

Synopsis: The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to First Lieutenant (Infantry) David Anthony Neyses, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Neyses distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions while serving as a platoon leader with Company C, 2d Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), in action against the enemy at Fire Support Base ILLINGWORTH, on 1 April 1970. On that night, the North Vietnamese attack was directed against that portion of the berm held by First Lieutenant Neyses' platoon and the recon platoon of the battalion. The gallant actions and dedicated devotion to duty demonstrated by First Lieutenant Neyses, without regard for his own life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army.



- United States Military Academy Register of Graduates

Born: California

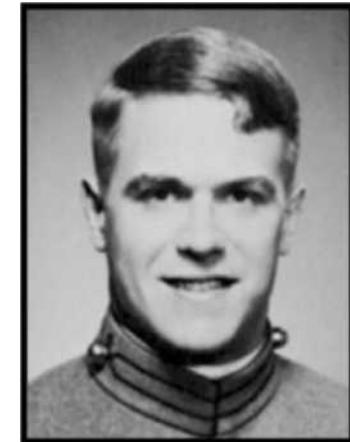
Home Town: San Bernardino, California

Personal Awards: Silver Star (Vietnam), Legion of Merit, 3 Bronze Stars, Purple Heart, Air Medal

PEPLINSKI, WILLIAM JAMES

William Peplinski graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, Class of 1968. He retired with disability from wounds in 1971 as a U.S. Army Captain.

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to First Lieutenant (Armor) William James Peplinski, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Peplinski distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions while serving as a platoon leader with Troop B, 1st Squadron, 17th Cavalry Regiment, 82d Airborne Division, in action against the enemy in July 1969. First Lieutenant Peplinski's Troop was in a night defensive position south of Cu Chi District. He was checking the positions of his armored personnel carriers when a Viet Cong grenade bounced off the vehicle next to him. Realizing the threat to the vehicle and its crew, First Lieutenant Peplinski grabbed the grenade and threw it outside the perimeter, where it exploded. Although suffering a head wound and a serious leg wound, he returned fire and directed the fire of his armored personnel carriers at the enemy position. The gallant actions and dedicated devotion to duty demonstrated by First Lieutenant Peplinski, without regard for his own life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army.



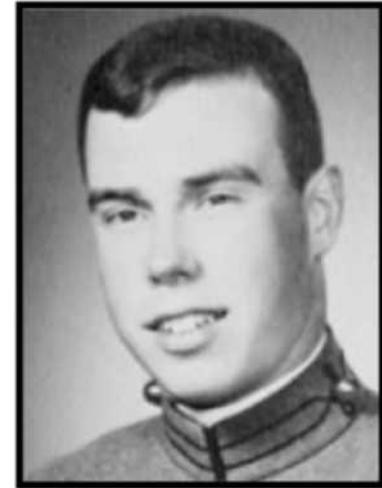
- United States Military Academy Register of Graduates
Born: June 4, 1946 at South Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Home Town: Buffalo, New York
Death: March 4, 2016
Buried at: Highland Memorial Park, Appleton, Wisconsin

Personal Awards: Silver Star (Vietnam), Bronze Star, Purple Heart

PIRNIE, LYLE ERIC

Lyle Pirnie graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, Class of 1968. He resigned in 1973 as a U.S. Army Captain.

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to First Lieutenant (Armor) Lyle Eric Pirnie, United States Army, for gallantry in action against an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Pirnie distinguished himself by intrepid actions on 2 September 1969 while serving as a Platoon Leader with Troop C, 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment, 23d Infantry Division (Americo). On that date, Troop C and a sister element were conducting combat operations two miles southwest of Duc Pho when contact was made with an enemy force of undetermined size. While leading an assault against the first of the enemy emplacements, First Lieutenant Pirnie killed two North Vietnamese Army soldiers and dispersed their comrades with heavy automatic weapons fire. Continuing the sweep, he led his vehicles as far forward as the terrain would permit. Disregarding the danger involved, First Lieutenant Pirnie then dismounted and led his comrades on a sweep of several enemy trenches. At one point, he surprised an enemy soldier armed with a rocket propelled grenade launcher and killed the insurgent before he had a chance to fire the weapon. As the operation continued, First Lieutenant Pirnie killed two more North Vietnamese Army soldiers before darkness curtailed his aggressive advance and necessitated a withdrawal to a night defensive position. Through his timely and courageous actions, Lieutenant Pirnie was directly responsible for the success of the operation and enabled his comrades to kill 29 enemy soldiers in close combat. First Lieutenant Pirnie's personal heroism, professional competence, and devotion to



duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

- Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 1106 (January 30, 1970)

Born: New Jersey

Home Town: Bergenfield, New Jersey

Personal Awards: Silver Star (Vietnam), Bronze Star w/V, Purple Heart

*RIEK, JEFFRY RANDAL [KIA (RVN)]

Jeffry Riek graduated from the U. S. Military Academy at West Point, New York Class of 1968. He was killed in action when serving as a U. S. Army Captain during the Vietnam War.

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pride in presenting the Silver Star (Posthumously) to First Lieutenant (Infantry) Jeffry Randal Riek, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Riek distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions while serving with Company E, 2d Battalion, 60th Infantry Regiment, 9th Infantry Division, in action against the enemy in Long An Province, Republic of Vietnam, on 25 February 1970. On that date. First Lieutenant Riek was leading a combined South Vietnamese and American Reconnaissance platoon on a mission against Viet Cong and North Vietnamese Regulars in the Mekong Delta. The platoon ran into an ambush with heavy fire and the four Vietnamese soldiers at the front of the formation were wounded. First Lieutenant Riek and his radio-telephone operator provided covering fire so the rest of the platoon could get into a bomb crater. While selflessly exposed to the enemy to cover their withdrawal, both he and the RTO were killed by enemy fire. The gallant actions and dedicated devotion to duty demonstrated by First Lieutenant Riek, without regard for his own life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army.



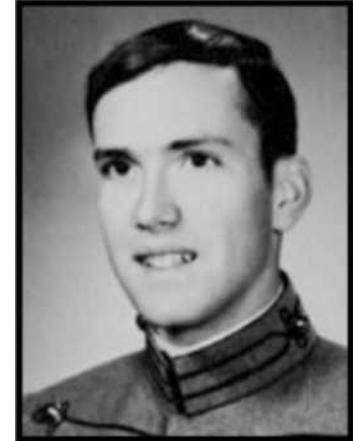
- United States Military Academy Register of Graduates
Born: March 3, 1947 at Wisconsin
Home Town: Falls Church, Virginia
Death: KIA: February 25, 1970
Buried at: Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia

Personal Awards: Silver Star (Vietnam), Soldier's Medal, 3 Bronze Stars, 2 Purple Hearts, Air Medal

RYNESKA, JOHN JOSEPH

John Ryneska graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, Class of 1968. He retired in 2003 as a U.S. Army Major General.

Synopsis: The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to Captain (Field Artillery) John Joseph Ryneska, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Captain Ryneska distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions while serving with the 1st Field Artillery Battalion, 21st Artillery Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), in action against the enemy in 1970 and 1972. The gallant actions and dedicated devotion to duty demonstrated by Captain Ryneska, without regard for his own life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army.



- United States Military Academy Register of Graduates

Born: September 13, 1946 at Lebanon, Tennessee

Home Town: Fayetteville, North Carolina

Death: November 6, 2021.

Buried at: U.S. Military Academy Post Cemetery, West Point, New York

Personal Awards: Defense Distinguished Service Medal, Army Distinguished Service Medal, Silver Star (Vietnam), 2 Legions of Merit, 2 Bronze Stars, 23 Air Medals

SHIELDS, BUREN RILEY, III

Buren Shields graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, Class of 1968. He retired in 1990 as a U.S. Army Lieutenant Colonel.

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to Captain (Armor) Buren Riley Shields, III, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Captain Shields distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 2 March 1971, while serving as Company Commander of Company A, 1st Battalion, 5th Infantry Regiment, 2d Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, in the Republic of Vietnam. On this date, Company A was on a combined reconnaissance operation with another unit from the 2d Brigade when they suddenly came in contact with a large enemy force well-entrenched in a bunker complex. In the initial exchange of fire several friendly casualties were sustained. Captain Shields immediately evaluated the situation and began to direct evacuation procedures for the wounded personnel. With complete disregard for his own safety, he exposed himself continually to the intense enemy fire in order to personally load the wounded soldiers into his vehicle and evacuate them to a more secure position. When this task was successfully accomplished, Captain Shields then initiated a sweep towards the enemy positions while contact was still in progress. Unhesitatingly, he led his element in an assault on the hostile positions, resulting in a complete rout of the enemy force. Captain Shields' leadership and aggressiveness contributed immeasurably to the defeat of the enemy force and to the success of the mission. Captain Shields'



gallantry in action was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

- Headquarters, II Field Force, Vietnam, General Orders No. 961 (March 27, 1971)

Born: Radford, Virginia

Home Town: Springfield, Virginia

Personal Awards: Silver Star (Vietnam), Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Air Medal

SWINNEY, JAMES RONALD

James Swinney graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, Class of 1968. He resigned in 1980 as a U.S. Army Major, and subsequently retired as a U.S. Reserve Lieutenant Colonel.

Synopsis: The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to First Lieutenant (Armor) James Ronald Swinney, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Swinney distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions while serving as 2d Platoon Leader in Troop C, 3d Squadron, 4th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division, in action against the enemy near Cu Chi, Republic of Vietnam, on 24 October 1969. On that date, Company A, 2d Battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment was inserted into a regimental basecamp and was ambushed in the Iron Triangle northwest of Cu Chi. First Lieutenant Swinney's platoon maneuvered through an old Arc Light strike area, fighting against a numerically superior enemy force to reinforce and relieve the embattled infantry company. Despite suffering 2 men killed in action and 6 wounded in action, including First Lieutenant Swinney, he reached the outnumbered infantry company. The gallant actions and dedicated devotion to duty



demonstrated by First Lieutenant Swinney, without regard for his own life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army.

- United States Military Academy Register of Graduates

Born: Missouri

Home Town: Kansas City, Missouri

Personal Awards: Silver Star (Vietnam), 3 Bronze Stars, Purple Heart

TIJERINA, GILBERT

Gilbert Tijerina graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, Class of 1968. He retired in 1992 as a U.S. Army Lieutenant Colonel.

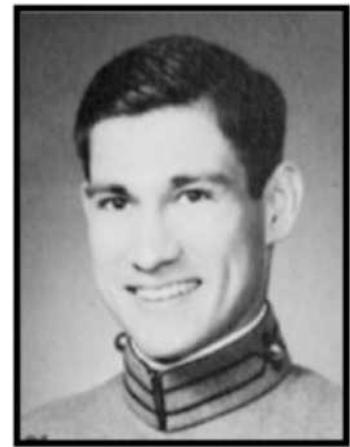
Synopsis: The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to First Lieutenant (Infantry) Gilbert Tijerina, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Tijerina distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions while serving as a platoon leader and later Commanding Officer of an Infantry company of the 4th Infantry Division, in action against the enemy in 1969 and 1970. The gallant actions and dedicated devotion to duty demonstrated by First Lieutenant Tijerina, without regard for his own life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army.

- United States Military Academy Register of Graduates

Born: Arizona

Home Town: Yuma, Arizona

Personal Awards: Silver Star (Vietnam), Legion of Merit, 4 Bronze Stars w/V, 7 Air Medals



UTERMAHLEN, CHARLES BRIAN

Charles Utermahlen graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, Class of 1968. He resigned in 1974 as a U.S. Army Captain, and subsequently retired as a Major in the Ohio Army National Guard.

Synopsis: The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to First Lieutenant (Infantry) Charles Brian Utermahlen, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Utermahlen distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions while serving as Commanding Officer of Company A, 1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), in action against the enemy in 1970 and 1971. The gallant actions and dedicated devotion to duty demonstrated by First Lieutenant Utermahlen, without regard for his own life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army.

- United States Military Academy Register of Graduates

Born: Maryland

Home Town: Baltimore, Maryland

Personal Awards: Silver Star (Vietnam), Air Medal



VEHLOW, CHARLES ARTHUR

Charles Vehlow graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, Class of 1968 He resigned in 1982 as a U.S. Army Major.

Synopsis: The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to Captain (Armor) Charles Arthur Vehlow, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Captain Vehlow distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions while serving as pilot of a Cobra Attack Helicopter and Operations Officer of Troop C, 2d Squadron, 17th Cavalry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division, in action against the enemy near Phu Bai, Republic of Vietnam, in 1971. The gallant actions and dedicated devotion to duty demonstrated by Captain Vehlow, without regard for his own life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army.



- United States Military Academy Register of Graduates
Born: February 10, 1946 at Waukesha, Wisconsin
Home Town: Waukesha, Wisconsin
Death: July 8, 2017
Buried at: U.S. Military Academy Post Cemetery, West Point, New York

Personal Awards: Silver Star (Vietnam)

WILLIAMS, GEORGE KENT

George Williams graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, Class of 1968. He retired in 1996 as a U.S. Air Force Colonel.

First Award

Synopsis: The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to First Lieutenant (Armor) George Kent Williams, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Williams distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions while serving as a platoon leader and subsequently Troop Commander in the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment, 23d Infantry Division (Americical), in action against the enemy in 1969 and 1970. The gallant actions and dedicated devotion to duty demonstrated by First Lieutenant Williams, without regard for his own life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army.

- United States Military Academy Register of Graduates



Second Award

Synopsis: The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting a Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster in lieu of a Second Award of the Silver Star to First Lieutenant (Armor) George Kent Williams, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Williams distinguished

himself by exceptionally valorous actions while serving as a Platoon Leader and subsequently Troop Commander in the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment, 23d Infantry Division (Americal), in action against the enemy in 1969 and 1970. The gallant actions and dedicated devotion to duty demonstrated by First Lieutenant Williams, without regard for his own life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army.

- United States Military Academy Register of Graduates

Born: March 30, 1944 at Lamar, Colorado

Home Town: Lamar, Colorado

Death: January 14, 2015

Buried at: Saint Giles Chapel Memorial Garden, Asheville, North Carolina

Personal Awards: 2 Silver Stars (Vietnam), Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Air Medal

WORTHEN, JAMES KEN

James Worthen graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York Class of 1968. He retired in 1975 as a U.S. Army Captain.

Synopsis: The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to First Lieutenant (Infantry) James Ken Worthen, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Worthen distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions while serving as a platoon leader in Company D, 1st Battalion, 501st Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division, in action against the enemy in 1969. While leading his men in a search and clear mission near Tan Ky, First Lieutenant Worthen's platoon was suddenly hit with heavy enemy fire and the lead element was cut off. First Lieutenant Worthen maneuvered a squad forward and, behind the protective fire, he directed his men to follow him to the location where the extreme front of his element was trapped and had casualties. After getting the wounded to safety without further casualties, First Lieutenant Worthen led his men forward again in an effort to destroy the enemy. He was wounded during the advance. The gallant actions and dedicated devotion to duty demonstrated by First Lieutenant



Worthen, without regard for his own life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army.

- United States Military Academy Register of Graduates

Born: Arizona

Home Town: Phoenix, Arizona

Personal Awards: Silver Star (Vietnam), Soldier's Medal, 7 Bronze Stars w/V, Purple Heart, Air Medal

YOUNTS, JAMES OGDEN, III

James Younts graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, Class of 1968. He retired in 1989 as a U.S. Army Lieutenant Colonel.

Synopsis: The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to First Lieutenant (Infantry) James Ogden Younts, III, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Younts distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions while serving with the 2d Battalion, 47th Infantry Regiment, 9th Infantry Division, in action against the enemy in 1969 and 1970. The gallant actions and dedicated devotion to duty demonstrated by First Lieutenant Younts, without regard for his own life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army.

- United States Military Academy Register of Graduates

Born: Louisiana

Home Town: Kerrville, Texas

Personal Awards: Silver Star (Vietnam), 5 Bronze Stars w/V, Air Medal

