



173RD AIRBORNE BRIGADE



1ST BATTALION 50TH INFANTRY

1ST PLATOON



"A" COMPANY



1ST LIEUTENANT



ARMOR

DANIEL OWEN ABERNATHY

"A" Company, 1st Platoon Leader, 1st Battalion (Mechanized), 50th Infantry
First Lieutenant, O2, O5247990, MOS 1203

Home of Record: Burlington, NJ

Date of Birth: November 1, 1946, Age at time of loss: 21, Single

173rd Airborne Brigade (Separate), Binh Dinh Province, Republic of Vietnam

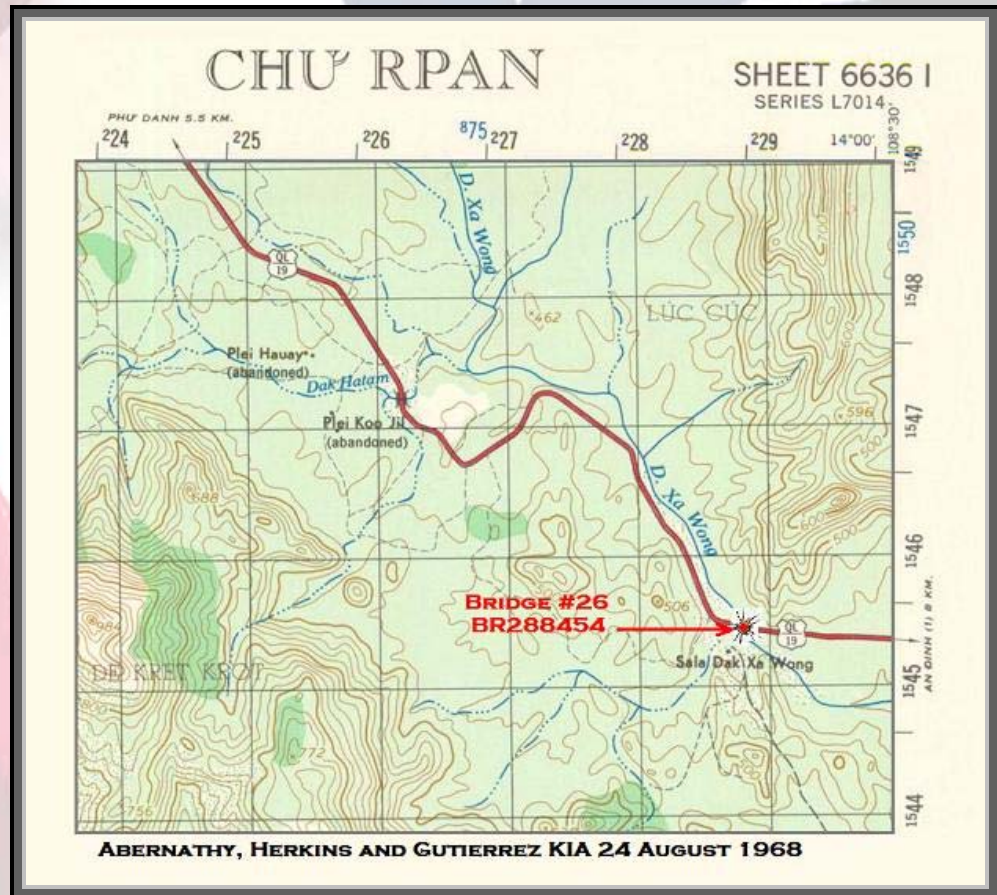
Start of Tour: April 27, 1968, Date of Casualty: August 24, 1968, Days in Country: 119

Casualty Type A1, MFW, Panel 47W - Row 058

Lieutenant Dan Abernathy was killed in action when the bridge his platoon was guarding was attacked by a North Vietnamese Army Unit estimated to be a reinforced Platoon. His command position was compromised by a direct hit from a B-40 Rocket in the initial volley of enemy fire and he was killed instantly. Also involved in the fighting were elements of the 50th Infantry's Scout Platoon. A portion of the bridge was overrun and the fighting included "hand to hand" combat at times. The Scouts were able to withdrawal carrying 6 men who were wounded. Reinforcements arrived and the bridge was retaken. Also killed in this hostile action were PFC Albert R. Gutierrez, Jr. and Sergeant Thomas F. Herkins.



A map of the location of Bridge #26 (BR288454) is shown below,



Continued...

Dan Abernathy is buried at Beverly National Cemetery in Beverly New Jersey just a few miles south of his boyhood home in Burlington, New Jersey



DAN ABERNATHY'S AWARDS AND DECORATIONS:



Combat Infantry Badge



Bronze Star (Valor)



Purple Heart



National Defense



Vietnam Service



Vietnam Campaign



Vietnam Gallantry Cross



Vietnam Nat'l Order 5th Class