



1ST

CAVALRY
DIVISION
(AIRMOBILE)

5TH BATTALION



7TH CAVALRY
REGIMENT

INFUSED FROM



1ST BATTALION
50TH INFANTRY

1ST PLATOON



"D" COMPANY



SPECIALIST
4TH CLASS



INFANTRYMAN

MICHAEL M. ALLEY

"HHC" Company, 5th Battalion, 7th Cavalry

Formerly with "HQ" & "D" Companies, 1st Battalion (M), 50th Infantry

Specialist 4th Class, E4, US56580882, MOS 11B20

Home of Record: Bridgeton, MO

Date of Birth: November 28, 1946, Age at time of loss: 21, Single

1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), Thua Thien (Hue) Province, Republic of Vietnam

Start of Tour: September 1, 1967, Date of Casualty: February 12, 1968, Days in Country: 164

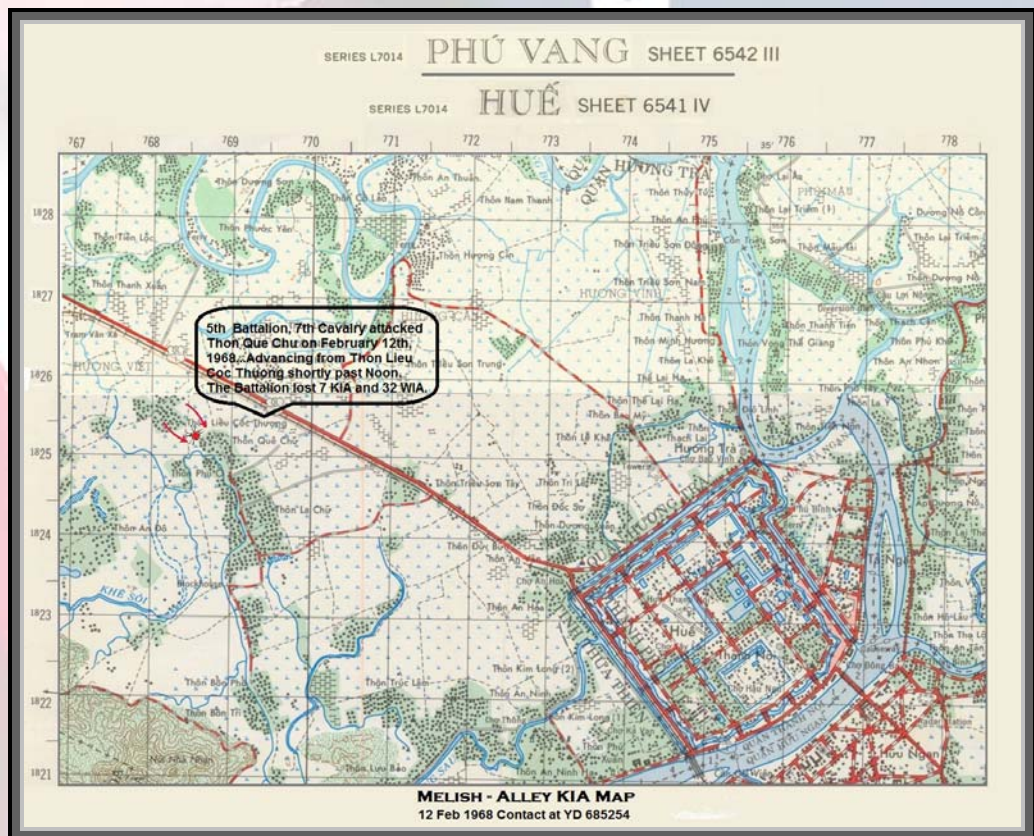
Casualty Type A1, Gun, small arms fire, Panel 39E - Row 001

Michael Alley was a member of the 1st Platoon of "D" Company and was transferred to the 5th Battalion, 7th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) sometime after Late October of 1967.

Specialist Alley was killed Northwest of Hue near the end of the two week siege by North Vietnamese Army Units during the TET Offensive of February, 1968. His unit was attacking Thon Que Chu on February 12th, 1968, advancing across the rice paddies from Thon Kieu Coc shortly past Noon. In heavy fighting, the 5th Battalion, 7th Cavalry lost 7 men KIA and 32 additional men wounded. Also killed in the action was former "C" Company, 1st Battalion (Mechanized), 50th Infantry man Arnold Melish.



A Map of the location of the action near Hue is shown below:



Continued...

Below (Left) is a photo of members of the 5th Battalion, 7th Cavalry at Hue in February of 1968. Michael Alley is buried at Memorial Park Cemetery, Lucas and Hunt Road, Jennings, St. Louis County, MO.



MICHAEL ALLEY'S AWARDS AND DECORATIONS:



Combat Infantry Badge



THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL
FOR MERITORIOUS SERVICE

HQ 1ST CAVALRY DIVISION (AIRMOBILE)

GENERAL ORDERS NUMBER 1902

30 MARCH 1968

FOR DISTINGUISHING HIMSELF BY OUTSTANDING MERITORIOUS SERVICE IN CONNECTION WITH GROUND OPERATIONS AGAINST A HOSTILE FORCE IN THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM DURING THE PERIOD FROM JANUARY 1968 TO FEBRUARY 1968. THROUGH HIS UNTIRING EFFORTS AND PROFESSIONAL ABILITY, HE CONSISTENTLY OBTAINED OUTSTANDING RESULTS. HE WAS QUICK TO GRASP THE IMPLICATIONS OF NEW PROBLEMS WITH WHICH HE WAS FACED AS A RESULT OF THE EVER-CHANGING SITUATIONS INHERENT IN THE COUNTERINSURGENCY OPERATION AND TO FIND WAYS AND MEANS TO SOLVE THOSE PROBLEMS. THE ENERGETIC APPLICATION OF THIS EXTENSIVE KNOWLEDGE HAS MATERIALLY CONTRIBUTED TO THE EFFORTS OF THE UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM TO ASSIST THAT COUNTRY IN RIDDING ITSELF OF THE COMMUNIST THREAT TO ITS FREEDOM. HIS INITIATIVE, ZEAL, SOUND JUDGMENT AND DEVOTION TO DUTY HAVE BEEN IN THE HIGHEST TRADITION OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY AND REFLECT GREAT CREDIT ON HIM AND ON THE MILITARY SERVICE.



Bronze
Star



Air
Medal*



Purple
Heart



National
Defense



Vietnam
Service



Vietnam
Campaign

* Award of the Air Medal is "assumed" based on the fact that all "line" Infantry soldiers in the 1st Battalion, (Mechanized), 50th Infantry, qualified for the Air Medal within two months of arrival in Vietnam in September of 1967. This while the 50th was OPCON to the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) and partook in numerous Combat Assaults via Helicopter. Specialist Alley was infused to the 5th of the 7th within the 1st Cavalry Division & would have continued to perform many Combat Assaults and most likely even received multiple awards for the Air Medal. (Documentation is being sought from the Text Records Center of the National Archives at College Park, MD.