

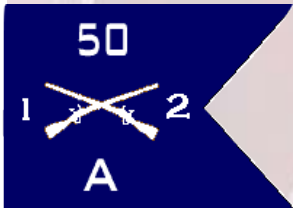


1<sup>ST</sup>  
AIR CAVALRY  
DIVISION



1<sup>ST</sup> BATTALION  
50<sup>TH</sup> INFANTRY

2<sup>ND</sup> PLATOON



"A" COMPANY



CORPORAL



INFANTRY

## EMILIO GAMBOA GARCIA

2nd Platoon, 4th Squad, "A" Company, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion (Mechanized), 50<sup>th</sup> Infantry  
Private First Class, E3, Posthumous Promotion to CPL, US54385485, MOS 11B10  
Home of Record: Barstow, TX

Date of Birth: January 29, 1949, Age at time of loss: 20, Single  
1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), Binh Dinh Province, Republic of Vietnam  
Start of Tour: May 5, 1967, Date of Casualty: January 23, 1968, Days in Country: 263  
Casualty Type A1, Gun, small arms fire, Panel 35E – Row 016

During the weeks prior to the 1968 Tet Offensive, the 1st Battalion (Mechanized), 50th Infantry began to "bump heads" with various North Vietnamese Army units...most notably in December with the Battle of Tam Quan. January saw this trend continue with more major contacts at An Tinh / An Lac (2) and Trung Thuan.

Emilio Garcia, Albert Campfield, Tommy Lee Carpenter and James Strano were killed as our "A" Company moved to counter-attack the elements of the 95th Battalion, 2nd VC/NVA Regiment, 3rd NVA Division who were attacking the Popular Force outpost at Chan An. A captured enemy soldier revealed that the main force of the enemy Battalion lay in Ambush on the approaches to Chan An on Highway 504. "A" Company made immediate contact on the highway as they closed on Trung Thuan...just west of the Popular Forces outpost. The enemy took very heavy casualties throughout the day long battle. Even after having the cover of darkness to secret away dead bodies, 137 NVA/VC bodies were found left on the battlefield in the morning of January 24th. In addition, 33 weapons were captured.



Corporal Garcia was awarded the Bronze Star with "V" Device (For Valor) for his bravery in battle at Trung Thuan. A map of the location is shown below.

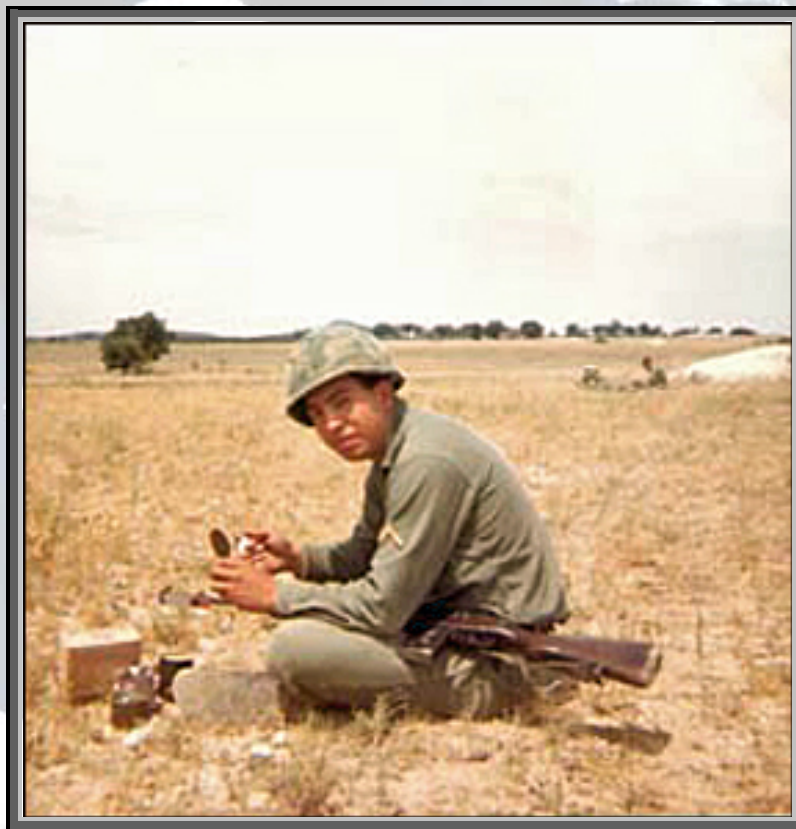


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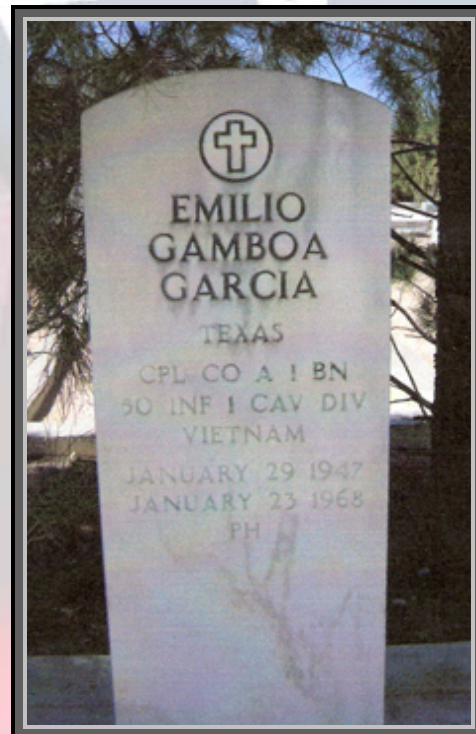


An extensive memorial has been posted for this man on the Virtual Wall Website:  
<http://www.virtualwall.org/dg/GarciaEG01a.htm>

Pictured below is Emilio Garcia as a Private First Class at Fort Hood, Texas, in 1967.

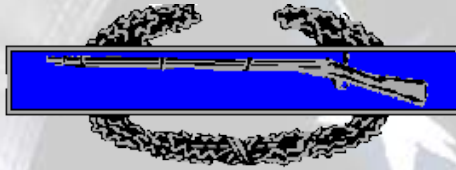


Corporal Garcia is buried at Barstow Cemetery, Barstow, Ward County, Texas, pictured below.



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## EMILIO GARCIA'S AWARDS AND DECORATIONS:



Combat Infantry Badge



THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL  
WITH "V" DEVICE FOR VALOR

HQ, 1ST CAVALRY DIVISION (AIRMOBILE)

GENERAL ORDERS NUMBER 1495

14 MARCH, 1968

FOR HEROISM, NOT INVOLVING PARTICIPATION IN AERIAL FLIGHT, IN CONNECTION WITH MILITARY OPERATIONS AGAINST A HOSTILE FORCE IN THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM. PRIVATE FIRST CLASS GARCIA DISTINGUISHED HIMSELF BY EXCEPTIONALLY VALOROUS ACTION ON 23 JANUARY 1968, WHILE SERVING AS A RIFLEMAN WITH COMPANY A, 1ST BATTALION (MECHANIZED), 50TH INFANTRY DURING A COMBAT MISSION IN THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM. WHEN HIS UNIT CAME UNDER INTENSE HOSTILE FIRE, PRIVATE FIRST CLASS GARCIE EXPOSED HIMSELF TO THE ENEMY FIRE AS HE FLANKED THE HOSTILE POSITIONS IN AN ATTEMPT TO DESTROY THE WELL ENTRENCHED HOSTILE FORCE. AFTER NEUTRALIZING ONE ENEMY EMPLACEMENT, PRIVATE FIRST CLASS GARCIA WAS MORTALLY WOUNDED. HIS DISPLAY OF PERSONAL BRAVERY AND DEVOTION TO DUTY WAS IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MILITARY SERVICE AND REFLECTS GREAT CREDIT UPON HIMSELF, HIS UNIT, AND THE UNITED STATES ARMY.



Bronze  
Star  
(Valor)



Purple  
Heart



National  
Defense



Vietnam  
Service



Vietnam  
Merit



Vietnam  
Campaign