



**173<sup>RD</sup>  
AIRBORNE  
BRIGADE**



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

**"C" COMPANY**



**2ND PLATOON**



**SERGEANT**



**INFANTRYMAN**

## ROY NATHANIEL GIVENS

2nd Platoon, "C" Company, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion (Mechanized), 50<sup>th</sup> Infantry  
While OPCON to either the 1<sup>st</sup> or the 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion (Airborne), 503<sup>rd</sup> Infantry  
Specialist 4th Class, E4, Posthumous Promotion to SGT, RA67383723, MOS 11B20  
Home of Record: Newport News, VA

Date of Birth: January 21, 1949, Age at time of loss: 20, Single  
173rd Airborne Brigade (Separate), Binh Dinh Province, Republic of Vietnam  
Start of Tour: November 13, 1968, Date of Casualty: July 29, 1969, Days in Country: 259  
Non-Hostile Ground Casualty – "Other" Accident, Panel 20W - Row 070

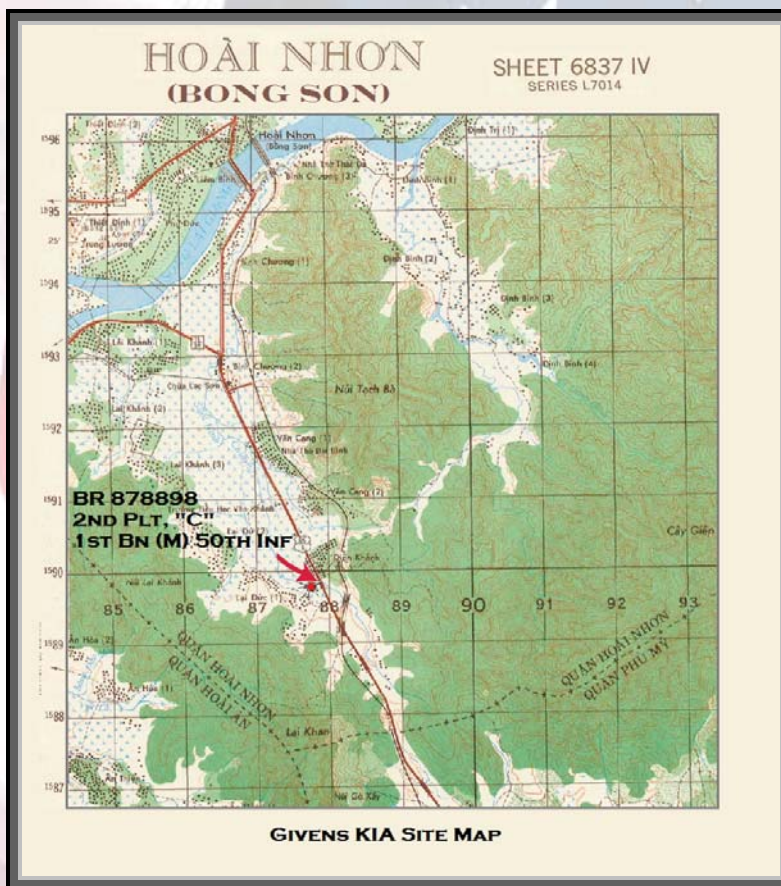
Roy Givens was killed in an accidental Hand Grenade explosion South of Bong Son in Binh Dinh Province. The 2nd Platoon, while under the operational control of the 2nd Battalion of the 503 Infantry, 173rd Airborne Brigade, had been receiving sniper fire from a native "Hooch" area North of their bridge security position each night. During daylight hours, friendly civilians sold sodas & beer from the same hooch area. Former 2/503 Officer, Bob Getz, related that he suggested that an ambush patrol be set to intercept the enemy snipers as they entered the hooch area at night. While preparing for the patrol, SP4 Henry Rhodes was demonstrating a new type of hand grenade which was supposed to have an extra safety feature which would allow you to return a pulled pin into the grenade. The grenade exploded killing Givens and wounding several others.

Currently, no photo exists for this man.

If you can supply us with a photo, we would be grateful...and see that it gets distributed to the appropriate Internet memorial web pages.

Contact Jim Sheppard:  
[kiss-ac@juno.com](mailto:kiss-ac@juno.com)

A map of the location of the Incident in Binh Dinh Province is shown below:



Continued...

Roy Givens is buried at Hampton National Cemetery, Cemetery Road at Marshall Avenue, Hampton, VA 23667, Plot: Section GP, Sire 420 (Cemetery Photo Below):



### ROY GIVEN'S AWARDS AND DECORATIONS:



Combat Infantry Badge



HQ 173RD AIRBORNE BRIGADE (SEPARATE)

#### GENERAL ORDERS

SERGEANT ROY GIVENS DISTINGUISHED HIMSELF BY OUTSTANDING MERITORIOUS SERVICE IN CONNECTION WITH GROUND OPERATIONS AGAINST A HOSTILE FORCE IN THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM DURING THE PERIOD FROM NOVEMBER 1968 TO JULY 1969. 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. SERGEANT GIVENS'S INITIATIVE, ZEAL, SOUND JUDGMENT AND DEVOTION TO DUTY WERE IN THE HIGHEST TRADITION OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY AND REFLECTED GREAT CREDIT ON HIM AND ON THE MILITARY SERVICE.



Bronze Star

National Defense

Vietnam Service

Vietnam Campaign