Sherron Everett Harbison

1st Platoon, 1st Squad, "A" Company, 1st Battalion (Mechanized), 50th Infantry
Sergeant, E5, US53840128, MOS 11B2P
Home of Record: Flint, MI
Date of Birth: October 22, 1946, Age at time of loss: 21, Married
173rd Airborne Brigade (Separate), Binh Dinh Province, Republic of Vietnam
Start of Tour: September 1, 1967, Date of Casualty: May 5, 1968, Days in Country: 247
Casualty Type A1, MFW, Panel 55E - Row 015

173rd Airborne Brigade

1st Battalion 50th Infantry

1st Platoon

"A" Company

Sergeant

Infantry

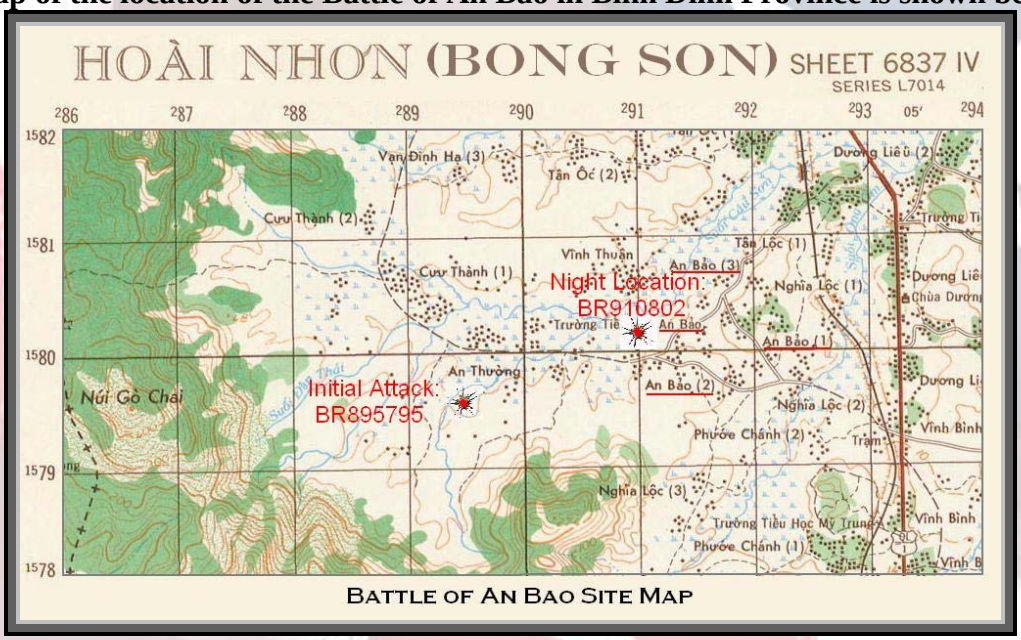
Sherron Harbison was killed In Action on May 5, 1968, near the villages of An Bao in Binh Dinh Province, "A" Company forces were attacked and outnumbered 10 to 1 by a Regiment of the North Vietnamese Army. "A" Company forces were overrun and took heavy casualties when Charlie Company was called in to reinforce the besieged Alpha Company. Upon arrival, the enemy, who had fallen silent to allow the "C" Company troops to enter the ambush zone, opened fire with an intense and sustained barrage of small arms, automatic weapons and B40 Rocket fire from three sides.

Sherron was surrounded with the command group that was forced to flee on foot when their Armored Personnel Carrier was destroyed in the initial volley of rocket fire. Although records indicate Sherron died of Multiple Fragmentation Wounds, his squad leader, Wendell Barnes, remembers him being shot in the back through his heart and killed instantly. He did not suffer.

Fierce fighting ensued on both 1/50th Companies as additional reinforcements from "B" Company, 1/50th Infantry and "B" Company, 1/69th Armor were called in to battle the huge enemy force.

Read about the Battle of An Bao (Condensed Version):
http://www.ichiban1.org/pdf/Memorial/AnBaoCondensed.pdf

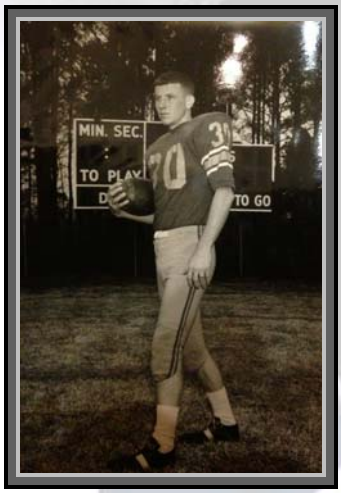
A map of the location of the Battle of An Bao in Binh Dinh Province is shown below:

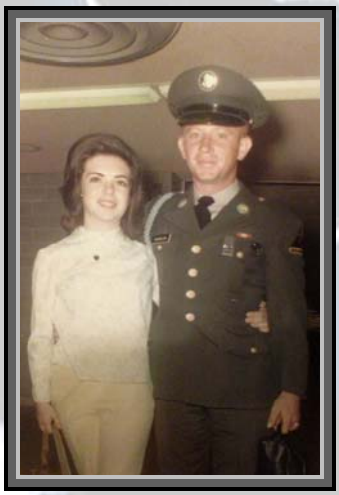


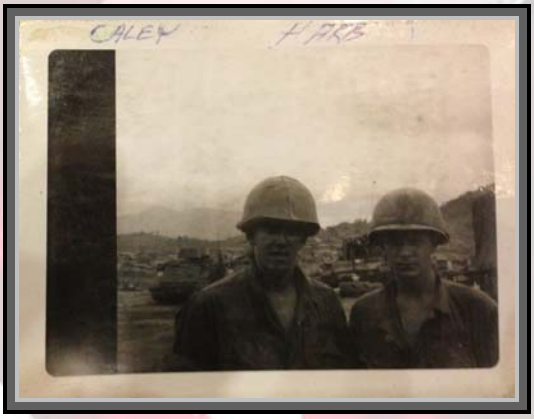
Battle of An Bao Site Map

Continued...

Below are photos contributed by Sherron's widow, Carolyn, pictured with him (below right) before he deployed to Vietnam. His High School football photo on the left...and several photos of him and some of his platoon in Binh Dinh Province. The last photo is Sherron Harbison by himself next to his squad's APC.







Sherron Harbison is buried at Mt. Vernon Cemetery, Curry Hwy, Curry (Jasper), Walker County, AL (Photo Below)

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Sherron Harbison's Awards and Decorations:

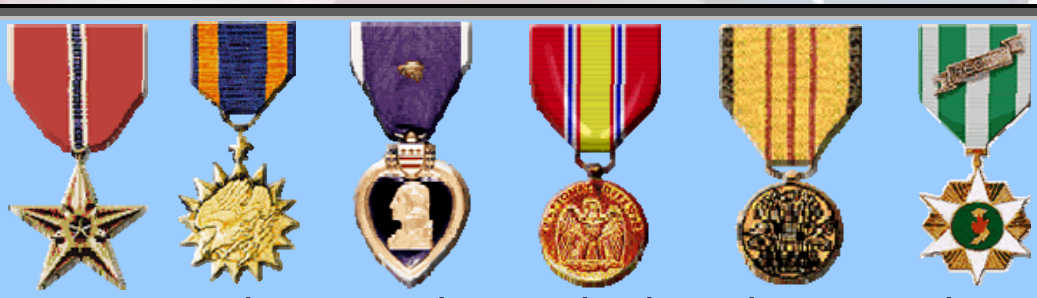
Combat Infantry Badge

Airborne Basic Parachutist Badge

HQ 173rd Airborne Brigade (Separate)

General Orders Number 1469 — 27 May 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 September 1967 to May 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 (2 awards) | Purple Heart | National Defense | Vietnam Service | Vietnam Campaign