



1ST CAVALRY
DIVISION
(AIRMOBILE)



1ST BATTALION
50TH INFANTRY

"A" COMPANY



3RD PLATOON



SPECIALIST
FOURTH CLASS



INFANTRY

JOHN EDWARD MOGAN

1st Squad, 3rd Platoon, "A" Company, 1st Battalion (Mechanized), 50th Infantry
Specialist 4th Class, E4, US51567707, MOS 11B40

Home of Record: Clifton, ME

Date of Birth: September 27, 1946, Age at time of loss: 21, Single

1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), Binh Dinh Province, Republic of Vietnam

Start of Tour: September 1, 1967, Date of Casualty: December 15, 1967, Days in Country: 105
Casualty Type A1, Gun, small arms fire, Panel 32E - Row 002

On December 15, 1967, during the Battle of Tam Quan which stretched from December 6 through the 20th in 1967. Fighting had centered around the villages of Truong Lam...with the heaviest fighting on December 10th. Search and Destroy operations were "on-going" in the following days, with heavy fighting again at the Villages of My An and Truong Lam (1) on December 15th.

At 1455 hours on December 15th, "A" Company, 1st Battalion (Mechanized), 50th Infantry was put under the operational control of "C" Company, 1st Battalion, 12th Cavalry. The Cavalry unit had been in heavy enemy contact and had requested a Mechanized Infantry Company to join them in a second advance on enemy positions near Grid

Coordinates 918053. Before the attack, intensive tactical air strikes and an artillery preparation were used in an attempt to weaken enemy resistance. (Visit this photo page to hear actual sound of the air strike...just minutes before John Mogan was killed in action: <http://www.ichiban1.org/images/photos/black/pages/black14.htm>)

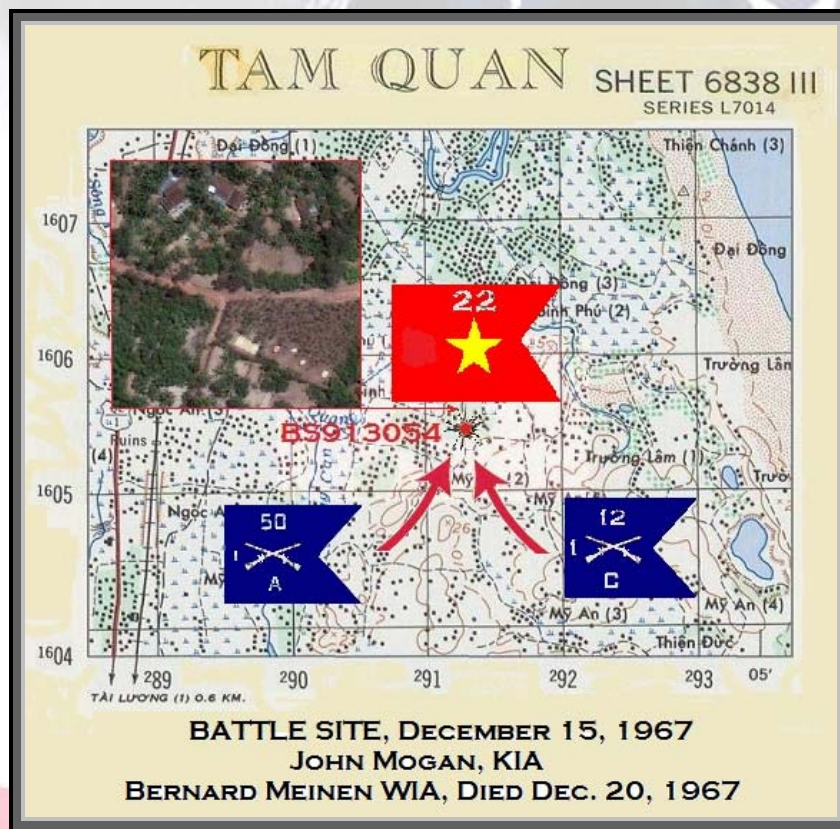


Chuck Spotts, the driver for John Mogan's APC (Armored Personnel Carrier) remembers:

"Mike Pellet was next to the ramp door in the rear of the APC...next to him was John Mogan also seated in the compartment were Mike Longbottom and Jim Qualey. Ken Crowley was the 50 caliber Machine-Gunner and I drove. As we moved in on line and came under intense enemy fire, we were hit by a B40 RPG. Someone must have reached for and engaged the mechanism to lower the rear ramp door...(I did not as I was momentarily stunned by wounds received when the rocket struck). As soon as the ramp dropped, small arms fire sprayed in on those in the back of the APC. Only John Mogan was hit by the small arms fire. Myself and Jim Crowley were both badly wounded by shrapnel from the B40. M60 Machine Gunner Russ Bonkoske was thrown clear by the initial B40 Blast and landed on his head outside the APC. He was shaken but otherwise not wounded. John Mogan died from his wounds."

A map of the location where Mogan was killed is shown on the next page. View more photos of John Mogan on Chuck Spotts' [Photo Album Page](#).

Continued...



John Mogan is buried at Maplewood Cemetery, Rebel Hill Road, Clifton, Penobscot County, Maine.



Photos were taken by Chuck Spotts (Above...upper right)

Continued...

JOHN MOGAN'S AWARDS AND DECORATIONS:



Combat Infantry Badge



THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL WITH "V" DEVICE FOR VALOR

HQ 1ST CAVALRY DIVISION (AIRMOBILE) GENERAL ORDERS NUMBER 1399, 10 MARCH 1968

FOR HEROISM, NOT INVOLVING PARTICIPATION IN AERIAL FLIGHT, IN CONNECTION WITH MILITARY OPERATIONS AGAINST A HOSTILE FORCE IN THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM. SPECIALIST FOUR MOGAN DISTINGUISHED HIMSELF BY EXCEPTIONALLY VALOROUS ACTION ON 15 DECEMBER 1967, WHILE SERVING AS A RIFLEMAN WITH COMPANY A, 1ST BATTALION (MECHANIZED), 50TH INFANTRY DURING A COMBAT MISSION NEAR TAM QUAN IN THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM. WHEN HIS UNIT CAME UNDER INTENSE HOSTILE FIRE AND SUSTAINED SEVERAL CASUALTIES, SPECIALIST MOGAN EXPOSED HIMSELF TO THE ENEMY FIRE AS HE LEFT HIS COVERED POSITION TO ASSIST HIS WOUNDED COMRADES. WHILE MOVING THE INJURED MEN TO SAFETY, SPECIALIST MOGAN 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
Campaign