



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



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

**3<sup>RD</sup> PLATOON**



**"A" COMPANY**



**CORPORAL**



**INFANTRY**

## LORENZO RICHARD PETTIS

3rd Platoon, "A" Company & Short Range Ambush Platoon,  
1<sup>st</sup> Battalion (Mechanized), 50<sup>th</sup> Infantry

Private First Class, E3, Posthumous Promotion to CPL, RA18922071, MOS 11B1P

Home of Record: West Palm Beach, FL

Date of Birth: August 22, 1949, Age at time of loss: 19, Single

173rd Airborne Brigade (Separate), Binh Dinh Province, Republic of Vietnam

Start of Tour: February 16, 1969, Date of Casualty: June 12, 1969, Days in Country: 116,  
Casualty Type A1, OED, Panel 22W - Row 035

Lorenzo Pettis was killed In Action on June 12, 1969, near the Southwest corner of Lake Dam Tra O, South of Bong Son in Binh Dinh Province (See map below). The Battalion History for the period stated:

"At 1130 hours, an Armored Personnel Carrier (APC) from "A" Company hit a mine, suspected to have been a booby trapped 175mm Artillery shell at BR958799. One U.S. Soldier was KIA and 5 wounded (One of which later died of his wounds).

Ten minutes later, "A" Company's second platoon, moving to the area of the blast, was ambushed at BR950815 by 7 or 8 VC/NVA with Small Arms Fire. There were no casualties and the platoon picked up 3 Male detainees, ages 50, 30 and 19 (They had no weapons)."

Also killed in the blast was SGT "Tex" Matlock, also of "A" Company. A map of the location of the action is shown below:

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)



Continued...

Lorenzo Pettis is buried at Glenwood Memorial Cemetery, 1233 Washington Avenue, Riviera Beach, Palm Beach County, Florida 33404.



**AWARDS AND DECORATIONS OF LORENZO PETTIS:**



Combat Infantry Badge



Airborne Jump Wings (Basic Parachutist Badge)



Bronze Star

Purple Heart

National Defense

Vietnam Service

Vietnam Campaign