

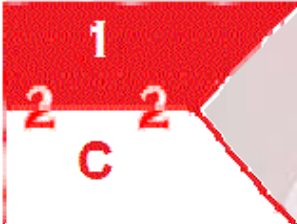


1ST
FIELD FORCE
VIETNAM



2ND SQUADRON,
1ST ARMORED
CAVALRY

2ND PLATOON



"C" TROOP



STAFF
SERGEANT



ARMOR
RECONNAISSANCE
SPECIALIST

CHARLES ALLEN RAULSTON

"C" Troop, 2nd Platoon, 2nd Squadron, 1st Armored Cavalry
Staff Sergeant, E6, RA408709603, MOS 11D40
Home of Record: South Pittsburg, TN

Date of Birth: August 22, 1941, Age at time of loss: 28, Married
I Field Force Vietnam, Binh Thuan Province, Republic of Vietnam
Start of Tour: November 7, 1969, Date of Casualty: March 21, 1970, Days in Country: 134
Casualty Type A1, Gun, small arms fire, Panel 12W - Row 031

We have determined that Charles Raulston was not a member of the 1st Battalion (M), 50th Infantry when killed in action on March 21st, 1970. We currently do not have access to the information that reported him as one of our KIAs, but it was indicated in a note on our original "In Memoriam" pages that someone within our Association identified him as such. It is possible he had transferred from the 50th Infantry to the 2nd Squadron, 1st Cavalry, where he was subsequently killed in action.

Raulston's name is inscribed on our 50th Infantry Vietnam Memorial in front of Battalion Headquarters, Fort Benning, Georgia. His name will remain on our memorial.



The Daily Staff Journal "Spot Report" for the event states: "2nd Platoon Ambush Element had contact initiated on them at approximately 1815 hours by an estimated VC Squad from the Northwest. The Enemy employed Automatic Weapons and either 60mm Mortars or B40 Rockets. The ambush element returned fire with small arms and machine gun fire. The enemy withdrew to the Northwest and Artillery was called in on the suspected fleeing enemy. A search of the area netted 2 M16 Magazines, 20 M-16 spent cartridges, 5 40mm (M79 Grenade) rounds, 2 long antennas for PRC25 Radios, 3 rolls of Claymore Wire." In the attack, Raulston was killed and another man was wounded and med-evac'd out. A map of the location of the attack is shown below. There were no enemy casualties found.



Continued...

CHARLES RAULSTON,S AWARDS AND DECORATIONS:



THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL WITH "V" DEVICE FOR VALOR

HQ 1ST FIELD FORCE VIETNAM
GENERAL ORDERS NUMBER 433

18 APRIL 1970

FOR HEROISM IN CONNECTION WITH GROUND OPERATIONS AGAINST A HOSTILE FORCE IN THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM: STAFF SERGEANT RAULSTON DISTINGUISHED HIMSELF ON 21 MARCH 1970 WHILE SERVING AS AN AMBUSH PATROL LEADER. THE PLATOON WAS CONDUCTING A FIVE DAY DISMOUNTED OPERATION NORTHEAST OF SONG MAO. ON THE EVENING OF 21 MARCH 1970, AT APPROXIMATELY 1730 HOURS, THEIR NIGHT DEFENSIVE POSITION RECEIVED INTENSIVE FIRE FROM AN UNKNOWN SIZE ENEMY FORCE. SERGEANT RAULSTON REACTED IMMEDIATELY AND RETALIATED WITH ACCURATE COUNTER FIRE WHICH MOMENTARILY DISORGANIZED THE ENEMY'S ATTACK. HIS ACTIONS INSPIRED CONFIDENCE IN HIS MEN WHO QUICKLY SEIZED THE INITIATIVE AND BEGAN LAYING DOWN ACCURATE SUPPRESSIVE FIRE. STAFF SERGEANT RAULSTON CONTINUED TO DIRECT THE COUNTER FIRE UNTIL HE WAS MORTALLY WOUNDED BY ENEMY FIRE. HIS QUICK REACTIONS AND GALLANT PERFORMANCE OF DUTY WERE DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR AVERTING AN ENEMY VICTORY AND SAVING THE LIVES OF THE OTHER MEMBERS OF HIS PATROL. MOVED HIS PERSONNEL CARRIER UP TO THE BASE OF A MOUNTAIN AND PROVIDED HEAVY FIRE SUPPORT FOR THE GROUND ELEMENT. DISREGARDING HIS OWN SAFETY, HE THREW GRENADES INTO NUMEROUS CAVES DESTROYING THE ENEMY. WHEN THE FIRING CEASED, HE ENTERED THE CAVES AND RETRIEVED THE ENEMY BODIES AS WELL AS CAPTURED WEAPONS AND EQUIPMENT. HIS ACTIONS ACCOUNTED FOR SEVERAL OF THE ENEMY BEING DESTROYED AND PROVIDED THE IMPETUS NEEDED FOR THE DEFEAT OF THE ENEMY. STAFF SERGEANT RAULSTON'S HEROIC ACTIONS WERE IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MILITARY SERVICE AND REFLECT GREAT CREDIT ON HIMSELF, HIS UNIT, AND THE UNITED STATES ARMY.



Bronze
Star



Purple
Heart



National
Defense



Vietnam
Service



Vietnam
Campaign