



1ST CAVALRY
DIVISION
(AIRMOBILE)

WILLIAM EDWARD STAINER

"D" Company, 1st Battalion (Mechanized), 50th Infantry

Private First Class, E3, US51875889, MOS 11C10

Home of Record: Columbus, OH

Date of Birth: August 8, 1947, Age at time of loss: 20, Single

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

Start of Tour: September 1, 1967, Date of Casualty: January 2, 1968, Days in Country: 123

Casualty Type A1, Gun, small arms fire, Panel 33E - Row 023



1ST BATTALION
50TH INFANTRY

Bill Stainer was a member of "D" Company and was killed by small arms fire as hostilities flared in what became known as the Battle of An Tinh/An Lac(2) on January 2, 1968. Also killed from "D" Company this day was Jerry Riedlberger of St. Paul, MN. Senior Delta Company Medic Randy Smith recalls that he observed Bill in very sincere prayer before the battle...it was as though he knew his time would come & he had never seen a man pray with such seriousness.

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:

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"D" COMPANY

"D" Company had approached the village of An Lac(2) to investigate a report that the enemy had moved into this area "in force". Riedlberger and Stainer were killed as the NVA/VC forces opened fire from the North in An Tinh. A captured enemy soldier revealed that three Companies of the 97th Battalion, 2nd VC Regiment, 3rd NVA Division were trapped in the village complex bordered by a large lake to the West...and open sandy beach on the other three sides. "D" was joined by "B" Company of the 1/50th as well as "B" and "C" Companies from the 1st Battalion 5th Cavalry and "B" Company of the 2nd Battalion, 5th Cavalry.



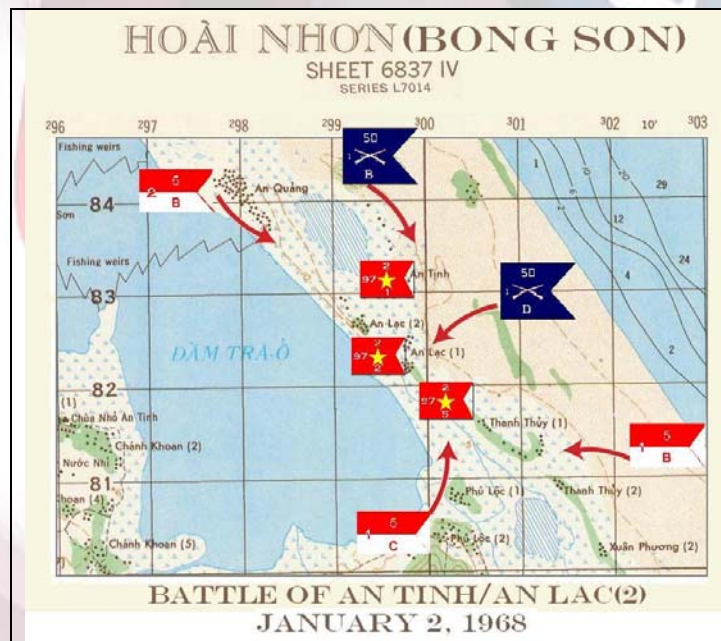
PRIVATE
1ST CLASS*

US Forces suffered 7 men Killed and 27 Wounded. The enemy lost 103 Killed and 28 weapons were captured before they managed to slip away during the night during sporadic fighting which continued into the next day.

A map of the Battle is shown below:



INFANTRY



Continued...

BILL STAINER'S AWARDS AND DECORATIONS



Combat Infantry Badge



Bronze Star For Valor



Air Medal



Purple Heart



National Defense



Vietnam Service



Vietnam Campaign

*The patch shown for "PFC" is that which was used at the time of Bill's death. The patch now used for PFC has a single "rocker" under the stripe:

