



173RD AIRBORNE BRIGADE



1ST BATTALION 50TH INFANTRY



"B" COMPANY



SERGEANT



INFANTRY

GARY LEE STROUSE

"B" Company, 1st Battalion (Mechanized), 50th Infantry
Specialist 4th Class, E4, Posthumous Promotion to SGT, RA51571566, MOS 62B20
Home of Record: Vestal, NY

Date of Birth: September 10, 1946, Age at time of loss: 21, Single
173rd Airborne Brigade (Separate), Binh Dinh Province, Republic of Vietnam
Start of Tour: May 29, 1968, Date of Casualty: July 10, 1968, Days in Country: 42
Casualty Type A1, OED, Panel 52W - Row 012

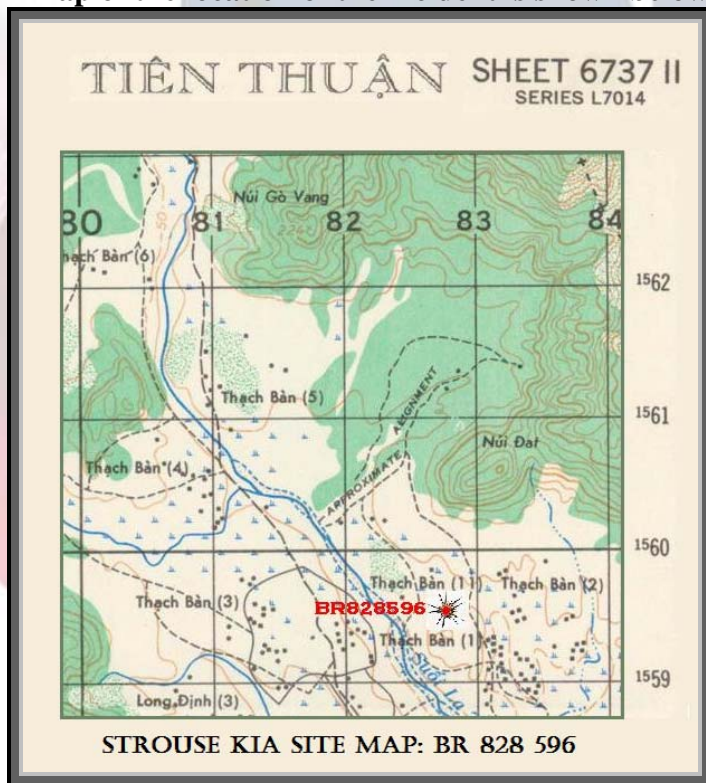
SGT Gary Strouse was killed when he stepped on an unidentified type booby trap at map grid coordinate BR828596. This area, the Suoi Ca Valley, also known as "Happy Valley", was rich and very fertile irrigated rice paddy farmland, surrounded by lush, jungle covered mountains which gave covered access to raiding North Vietnamese Army units as well as local Viet Cong.

Gary Strouse was not a "line" Infantry soldier, but rather an Equipment Repair Mechanic...either in the field with "B" Company voluntarily, or working with a repair team on Bravo Company's Armored Personnel Carriers.

Strouse was promoted to Sergeant and awarded a Bronze Star for Meritorious Service, posthumously.



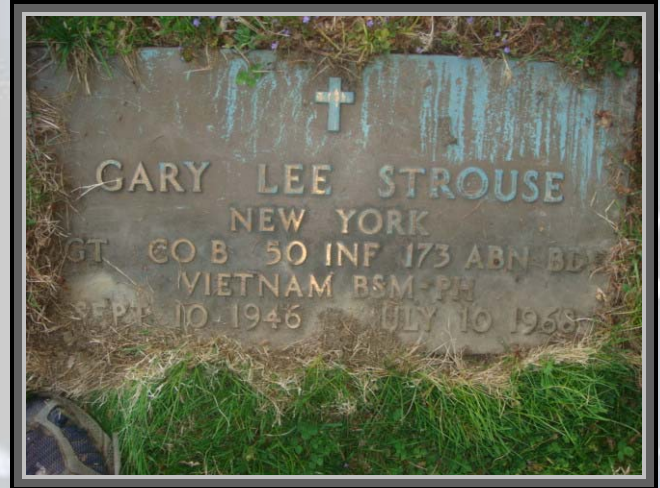
A map of the location of the incident is shown below:



The 50th Infantry Association wishes to thank Gary Strouse's hometown friend, Tim Traver, for the personal photo (Top right) taken before graduation from High School in Vestal, New York.

Continued...

Gary Strouse is buried at Vestal Hills Memorial Park, Old Vestal Road (County Road 44), Vestal, Broome County, New York. (Photo Below):



AWARDS AND DECORATIONS OF GARY STROUSE:



HQ 173RD AIRBORNE BRIGADE (SEPARATE)

GENERAL ORDERS NUMBER 1941

19 JULY 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 MAY 1968 TO JULY 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.

