



1ST

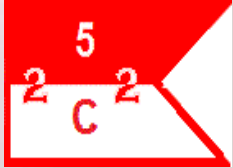
CAVALRY
DIVISION
(AIRMOBILE)



2ND

BATTALION
5TH CAVALRY

"C" COMPANY



2ND PLATOON

WORKING
WITH



CHARLIE
COMPANY



2ND

LIEUTENANT



INFANTRYMAN

QUENTIN DENNIS "DENNY" ZAMBANO

2nd Platoon, "C" Company, 2nd Battalion, 5th Cavalry
Working with "C" Company, 1st Battalion (Mechanized), 50th Infantry
2nd Lieutenant, O1, O5337009, MOS 1542

Home of Record: Bellevue, WA & Greensburg, PA

Date of Birth: October 14, 1946, Age at time of loss: 21, Single

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

Start of Tour: August 15, 1967, Date of Casualty: October 15, 1967, Days in Country: 60

Casualty Type A2, MFW, Panel 28E - Row 009

Dennis Zambano was killed in action on October 15th, 1967 while serving as a military advisor to Charlie Company, 1st Battalion (Mechanized), 50th Infantry.

During a "Cordon and Search" operation of the village of Xuân Thanh, an extensive tunnel complex was found. Early in the process of clearing these tunnels, an enemy soldier tossed a grenade that mortally wounded 2nd Lieutenant Zambano and Staff Sergeant Salema of the 50th Infantry's Charlie Company.

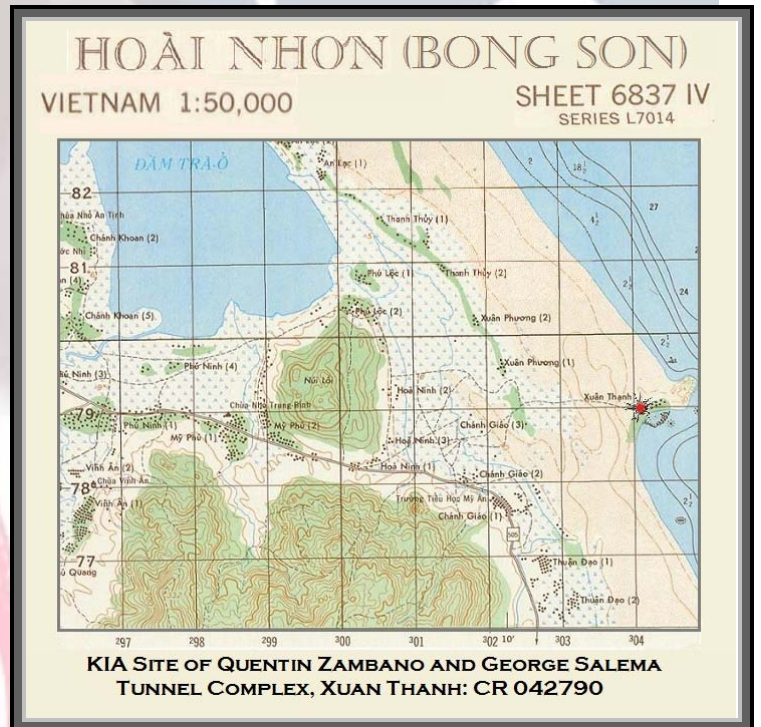
Dennis Zambano was awarded the Bronze Star with "V" Device for Valor for his actions that day. Although not listed on our memorial at Fort Benning, we honor this brave Officer from the 2nd Battalion, 5th Cavalry by listing him on our website "In Memoriam" pages.



The 1st Cavalry Division G2 Intelligence Summary for October 15th reads:

"Republic of Vietnam National Police Field Force (NPF) elements and C Company, 1st Battalion (Mechanized), 50th Infantry, at Map Grid Coordinates CR042790 (See Map) Cordoned the village of Xuân Thanh and processed 238 Innocent Civilians, searched 135 houses, captured 1 North Vietnamese Army Soldier and 1 Viet Cong Soldier, processed 7 Civilian Detainees, killed three enemy and also captured one MAS 36 Rifle, 10 pounds of medical supplies and some documents which included a list of 5 wounded men, no date shown, a personal notebook which revealed they (Unidentified Unit) brought 10 wounded men into Xuan Phong (2) (1800 Meters to the West), but were turned away. Four died and the others were taken to Xuân Thanh where they received aid. Documents also included receipts for treatment of members of the 9th Battalion, 18th Regiment.

At approximately 11:15 AM, US Forces and National Police found several enemy in a tunnel complex. Three enemy (as previously stated) were pulled out along with the Medical supplies.



Continued...

Another enemy soldier from a nearby bunker engaged the US elements with grenades, resulting in two US men killed in action and seven US men wounded, two National Police Killed and five National Police wounded. US & NP elements engaged with small arms and M-79 (Grenade launcher) fire resulting in three enemy killed and one captured (wounded) as well as one Civilian Detainee wounded and one Innocent Civilian wounded. Also captured was one MAS 36 & four grenades.

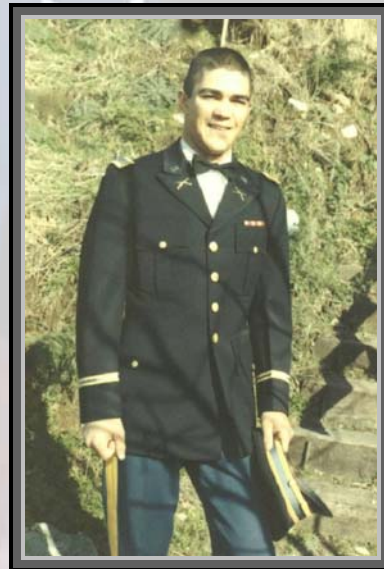
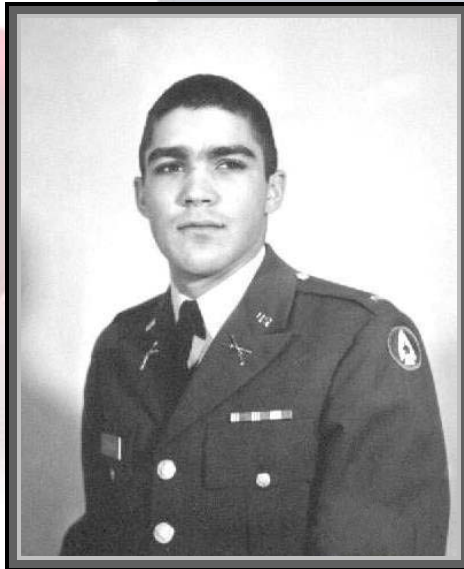
The captured North Vietnamese Army soldier was from the 63rd Company, 18th Regiment and stated that his company had 50 men and that they had been located in the Tan Phung Caves (Map Grid Coordinate 0575) five days ago. He will lead US forces to the area on October 16th.

1340 hours in the same location, elements received sniper fire from a house at the West end of the hamlet. The area was checked and nothing was found. There were no casualties from the sniper fire.

At

A Subsequent Intelligence Summary (17 Oct 67) reveals: The same location (Xuân Thanh) was cordoned and searched again, processing 152 Innocent Civilians, searching 487 houses, picking up one Civilian Detainee, and found nine fresh graves. The graves were dug up revealing nine enemy KIA (Three previously reported as KIA on October 15th). Villagers stated that the bodies were left in enemy bunkers after the 15 October contact in the area and that they were buried later...including the three dead that were found by US forces. The Civilian Detainee identified the dead men. Results: 6 enemy killed not previously reported."

Below are photos of Dennis Zambano . On the right, in his Dress Blues, taken at the completion of the Fort Benning Officer Candidate School's 85th Graduating Class in January of 1967 and on the left in February of 1967.



Quentin Dennis Zambano is buried at St. Clair Cemetery, 964 St. Clair Way, Westmoreland County, Greensburg, Pennsylvania.



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DENNIS ZAMBANO'S AWARDS AND DECORATIONS:



Combat Infantry Badge



Bronze Star (Valor)



Purple Heart



Good Conduct



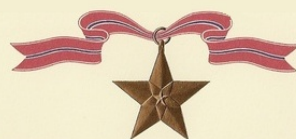
National Defense



Vietnam Service



Vietnam Campaign



THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL
WITH "V" DEVICE FOR VALOR

HQ, 1ST CAVALRY DIVISION (AIRMOBILE)

GENERAL ORDERS NUMBER 6641

1 NOVEMBER 1967

FOR HEROISM IN CONNECTION WITH MILITARY OPERATIONS AGAINST A HOSTILE FORCE. SECOND LIEUTENANT ZAMBANO DISTINGUISHED HIMSELF BY HEROISM IN ACTION ON 15 OCTOBER 1967, WHILE SERVING AS A MILITARY ADVISOR ATTACHED TO COMPANY C, 1ST BATTALION (MECHANIZED), 50TH INFANTRY DURING A CORDON AND SEARCH MISSION NEAR XUÂN THANH, REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM. WHEN HIS UNIT CAME IN CONTACT WITH A WELL CONCEALED ENEMY FORCE, LIEUTENANT ZAMBANO, DISREGARDING HIS OWN SAFETY, MOVED FORWARD TO DIRECT HIS MEN AGAINST THE HOSTILE EMPLACEMENTS. CONTINUALLY EXPOSING HIMSELF TO THE ENEMY FIRE, HE LED HIS MEN IN THE INVESTIGATION OF A TUNNEL COMPLEX. AT THIS TIME, LIEUTENANT ZAMBANO BECAME MORTALLY WOUNDED. HIS ACTION CONTRIBUTED GREATLY TO THE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF HIS UNIT'S MISSION. LIEUTENANT ZAMBANO'S 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.