

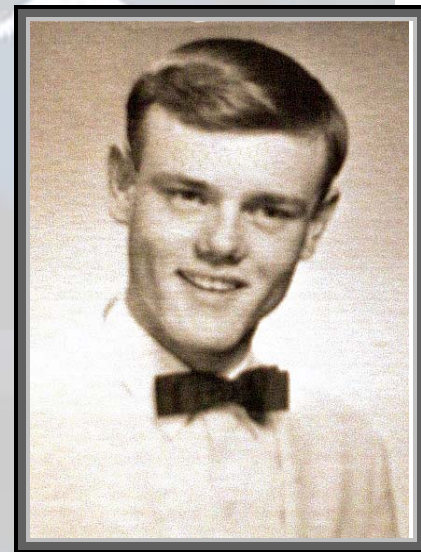


ROBERT SAMUEL ALLEN

“A” Company, 1st Platoon, 1st Battalion (Mechanized), 50th Infantry
Private First Class, E3, Posthumous Promotion to CPL, US51979167, MOS 11B10
Home of Record: North Bergen, NJ

Date of Birth: August 14, 1947, Age at time of loss: 20, Single
173rd Airborne Brigade (Separate), Binh Dinh Province, Republic of Vietnam
Start of Tour: December 10, 1967, Date of Casualty: May 5, 1968, Days in Country: 147
Casualty Type A1, Burns, Panel 54E – Row 042

Bob Allen was killed during the Battle of An Bao on May 5th, 1968. This action was one of the most significant battles experienced by the 1st Battalion, 50th Infantry during its tour in Vietnam. Allen was seen bravely directing fire from his Armored Personnel Carrier in an attempted counter attack as his “A” Company was surrounded by a vastly superior force.



There are currently over a half dozen personal accounts of this battle in our Association Archives. I will link to one by Medic James Fitzgerald, who describes Allen’s actions just before his death when his APC was ultimately struck and destroyed by enemy rocket fire.

James Fitzgerald’s Personal Account:

<http://www.ichiban1.org/pdf/Memorial/JimFitzgeraldAnBaoAccount.pdf>

Battle of An Bao, Condensed:

<http://www.ichiban1.org/pdf/Memorial/AnBaoCondensed.pdf>

Declassified An Bao After Action Report, Daily Staff Journal and Air Report:

<http://www.ichiban1.org/pdf/Memorial/AnBaoExpanded.pdf>

The 50th Infantry is grateful to Bob Allen’s childhood friend, Charley Severino, for contributing the photo shown above right.

A map of the location of the Battle of An Bao in Binh Dinh Province is shown below:



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A little league field was named in Bob Allen's honor in his home town of North Bergen, New Jersey. Association Historian Jim Sheppard visited the site and wrote a story in the Association Newsletter for September of 2008. A copy of the Robert Allen Field story is linked here:

<http://www.ichiban1.org/pdf/Memorial/RobertAllenField.pdf>



Bob Allen is buried at Madonna Cemetery, 2070 Hoefley's Lane, Fort Lee, Bergen County, NJ 07024
(Picture below)

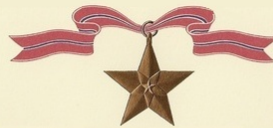


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ROBERT ALLEN'S AWARDS AND DECORATIONS:



Combat Infantry Badge



THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL
FOR MERITORIOUS SERVICE

HQ 173RD AIRBORNE BRIGADE (SEPARATE)

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 DECEMBER 1967 TO MAY 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.



Bronze
Star



Purple
Heart



National
Defense



Vietnam
Service



Vietnam
Campaign