



KEITH BRIAN JANKE

2nd Platoon, "A" Company, 1st Battalion (mechanized), 50th Infantry
Sergeant, E5, Posthumous Promotion to SSG, US16978890, MOS 11B40

Home of Record: Ashland, WI

Date of Birth: February 23, 1943, Age at time of loss: 26, Married
173rd Airborne Brigade (Separate), Binh Dinh Province, Republic of Vietnam
Start of Tour: July 24, 1968, Date of Casualty: May 28, 1969, Days in Country: 308
Casualty Type A1, OED, Panel 23W - Row 009

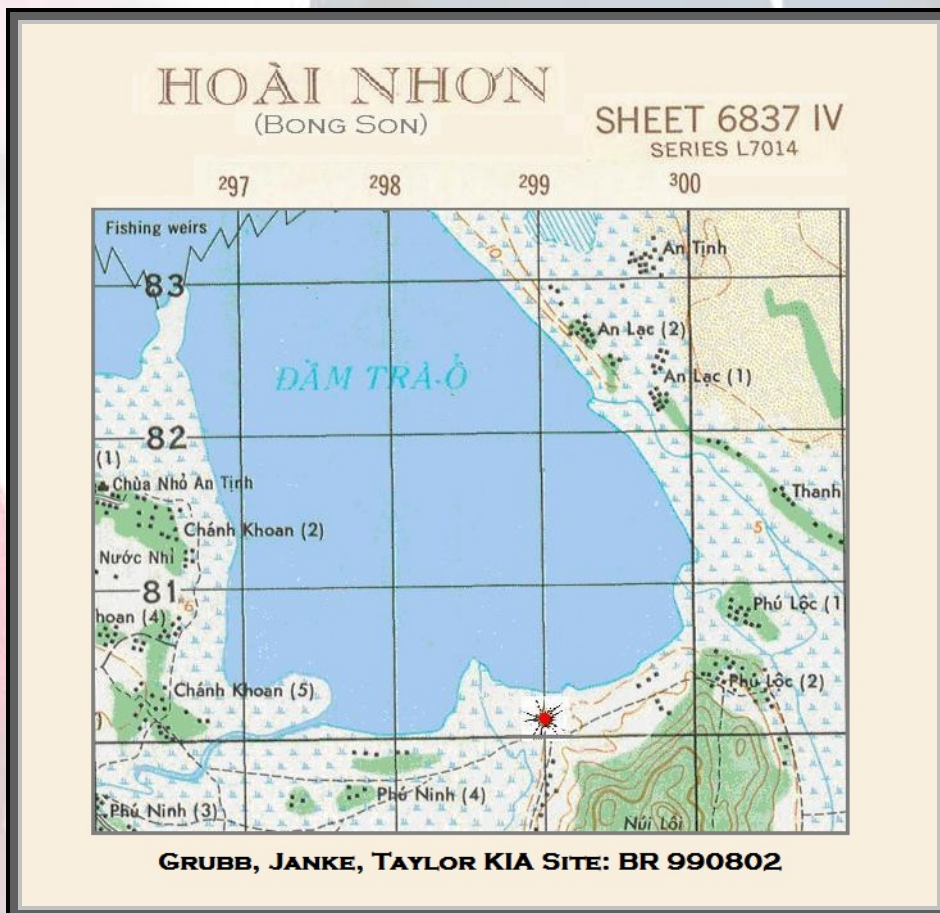
Keith Janke was killed when he and 5 others from the 2nd Platoon of "A" Company were hit by shrapnel from a command detonated Claymore Mine.

Medic SP5 John Kirkwood witnessed the event:

"We were on a foot patrol that day and after searching and finding nothing in a village near lake Dam Tra O, we moved out with Sergeant Janke on point. About 500 feet beyond the village the VC triggered a Claymore Mine just as it came into view on the trail we were following. Janke and Clarence Taylor were killed outright and several others were wounded with Steve Grubb being the worst (He later died)."



A map of the location (BR990802) is shown below.



GRUBB, JANKE, TAYLOR KIA SITE: BR 990802



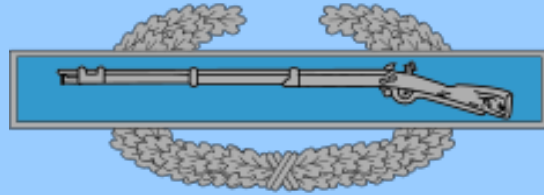
Above Left: Keith Janke (right) is pictured on Bridge 27, Highway 19, near An Khe. (Photo from [David Payne](#) (left)). Above Right: Keith Janke receives a Bronze Star from Battalion Commander Jim Woodall (Photo from Keith's Mother, Florence Janke).

Keith Janke is buried at Mount Hope Cemetery, Sanborn Avenue and Wisconsin State Highway 112, Ashland, Ashland County, Wisconsin...Section C, East Wooded Section. His grave is in the 4th row from the East Service Road, center of the row by the birch tree.



Continued...

KEITH JANKE'S AWARDS AND DECORATIONS



Combat Infantry Badge



Bronze Star
(Valor)



Bronze Star
(Merit)



Purple Heart



National Defense



Vietnam Service



Vietnam Campaign