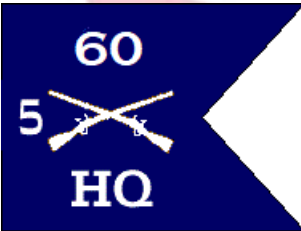




9TH INFANTRY  
DIVISION



5TH BATTALION  
60TH INFANTRY



“HQ” COMPANY



MAJOR



INFANTRY

## DAVID R. MACKEY

S3, HHC, 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion (Mechanized), 60<sup>th</sup> Infantry, 9<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division  
Commanded "A" Company, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion (Mechanized), 50<sup>th</sup> Infantry, 1965-1966  
Captain, O3, Posthumous Promotion to Major, O4 402565112, MOS 2162  
Home of Record: Calhoun, Kentucky

Date of Birth: July 19, 1940, Age at time of loss: 29, Single  
9<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, Long An Province, Republic of Vietnam  
Start of Tour: March 17, 1969, Date of Casualty: September 17, 1969, Days in Country: 184  
Casualty Type C1, Non-Hostile, Air Loss, Crash over Land. Panel 18W - Row 103

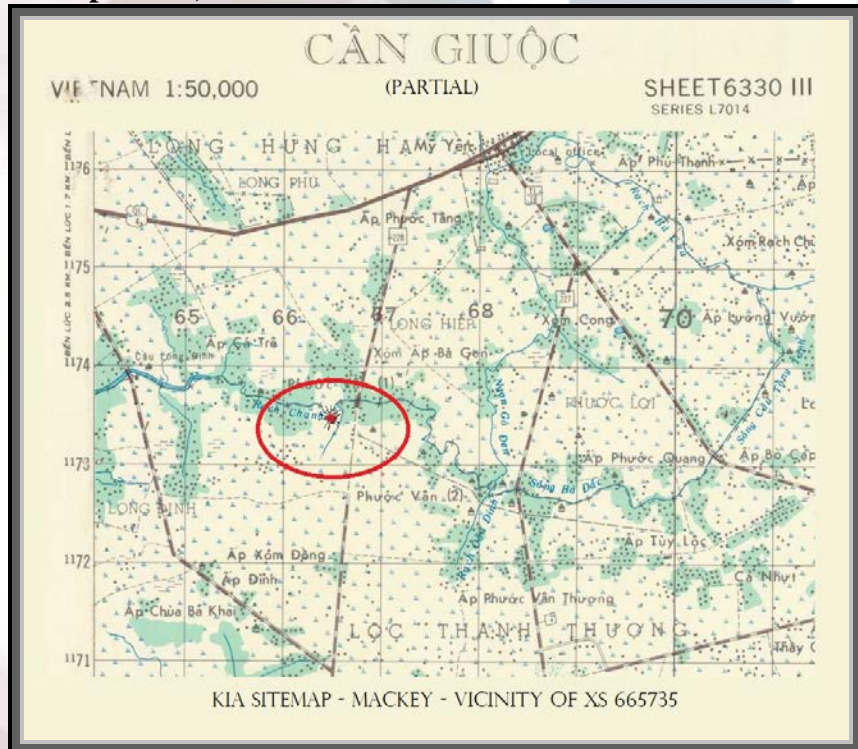
Major David Mackey commanded our "A" Company at Fort Hood Texas during the crucial period when the battalion was tasked with becoming a training unit. He commanded Company A during the first cycle of Basic Combat Training from December of 1965 through February of 1966. He departed the 50<sup>th</sup> Infantry sometime in the spring of 1966.



He was killed in action in Vietnam when the command helicopter in which he rode was involved in a collision with a gunship helicopter over a battle involving elements of his unit, the 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion (Mechanized), 60<sup>th</sup> Infantry.

Killed in the crash were a total of 12 men from the two aircraft including Mackey's Battalion Commander and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade Commander, Colonel Dale J. Crittenberger, son of noted WWII Lieutenant General Willis D. Crittenberger.

The incident took place 9 miles northeast of Tan An, below Highway 4 and southwest of Saigon (See map below).



KIA SITEMAP - MACKEY - VICINITY OF XS 665735

Continued...

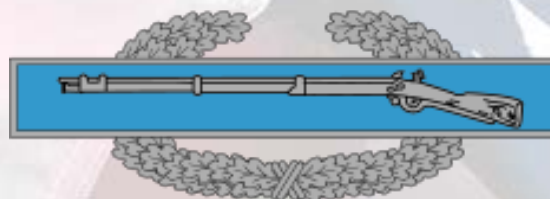
Major David Mackey was McLean County's first serviceman to die in Vietnam. He was the son of Weldon and Una Mackey and attended Western Kentucky University and graduated with a degree in biology. He was also a ROTC cadet while at Western. David was chosen to be inducted in Western Kentucky University's Hall of Fame. The ceremony was held at Western, in Bowling Green, at the Diddle Area, on Veteran's Day, November 11, 2015.

Major David Mackey is buried at Calhoun Cemetery, Main Street, McLean County, Calhoun, Kentucky. A photo of his grave is shown below.



### **DAVID MACKEY'S AWARDS AND DECORATIONS:**

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**Combat Infantry Badge**



Among Major Mackey's many service awards were the Silver Star twice, seven Bronze Star medals, including two with "V" device for Valor, 9 Air Medals and 2 Purple Hearts. He had commanded Company C, 5<sup>th</sup> Bn (Mechanized), 60<sup>th</sup> Inf. from March to July of 1969.