

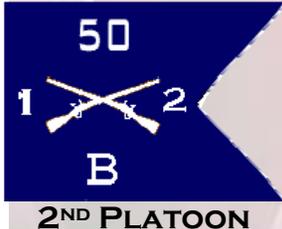


1ST CAVALRY
DIVISION
(AIRMOBILE)



1ST BATTALION
50TH INFANTRY

"B" COMPANY



2ND PLATOON



SERGEANT



INFANTRY

JOSE A C SILVEIRA

"B" Company, 2nd Platoon, 1st Battalion (Mechanized), 50th Infantry
Sergeant, E5, US56420684, MOS 11B40

Home of Record: Turlock, CA

Date of Birth: March 20, 1947, Age at time of loss: 20, Single

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

Start of Tour: September 1, 1967, Date of Casualty: January 2, 1968, Days in Country: 123

Casualty Type A1, Gun, small arms fire, Panel 33E - Row 022

Jose Silveira was a member of "B" Company and was killed by small arms fire "Outright" as the Company moved in to re-enforce "D" Company, already heavily involved in what became known as the Battle of An Tinh/An Lac(2) on January 2, 1968.

Dick Guthrie, Former Commanding Officer of "B" Company remembers Silveira's death well: "At the outset when we began receiving heavy enemy fire, the Second Platoon Leader, LT Olan Pike, reported that Silveira had been killed. He had just been appointed to replace a squad leader killed on the 10th of December...We had promoted Silveira to Sergeant, E-5, only a few days before his death."



Also killed were two men from "D" Company: Bill Stainer of Columbus, Ohio. And Jerry Riedlberger of St. Paul, MN. "D" Company had approached the village of An Lac(2) to investigate a report that the enemy had moved into this area "in force". Riedlberger and Stainer were killed as the NVA/VC forces opened fire with a heavy barrage of small arms and automatic weapons as well as B40 Rockets.

A captured enemy soldier revealed that three Companies of the 97th Battalion, 2nd VC Regiment, 3rd NVA Division were trapped in the village complex bordered by a large lake to the West...and open sandy beach on the other three sides. "D" was joined by "B" Company of the 1/50th as well as "B" and "C" Companies from the 1st Battalion 5th Cavalry and "B" Company of the 2nd Battalion, 5th Cavalry.

US Forces suffered 7 men Killed and 27 Wounded. The enemy lost 103 Killed and 28 weapons were captured before they managed to slip away during the night as sporadic fighting continued into the next day.

A map of the Battle is shown on the right.

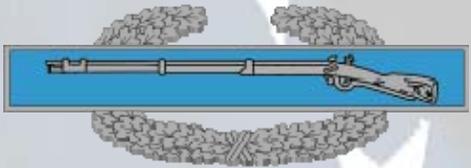


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Jose Silveira is buried at Patterson District Cemetery, Patterson, Stanislaus County, Californian (Headstone shown Below)



JOSE SILVEIRA'S AWARDS AND DECORATIONS



Combat Infantry Badge



HQ, 1ST CAVALRY DIVISION (AIRMOBILE)

GENERAL ORDERS NUMBER 985

16 FEBRUARY, 1968

FOR HEROISM, NOT INVOLVING PARTICIPATION IN AERIAL FLIGHT, IN CONNECTION WITH MILITARY OPERATIONS AGAINST A HOSTILE FORCE IN THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM. SERGEANT SILVEIRA DISTINGUISHED HIMSELF BY EXCEPTIONALLY VALOROUS ACTION ON 2 JANUARY 1968, WHILE SERVING AS A SQUAD LEADER WITH COMPANY B, 1ST BATTALION (MECHANIZED), 50TH INFANTRY DURING A CORDON AND SEARCH MISSION NEAR AN LAC, REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM. WHEN HIS UNIT CAME UNDER INTENSE HOSTILE FIRE, SERGEANT SILVEIRA EXPOSED HIMSELF TO THE ENEMY FIRE AS HE BEGAN LEADING AN ASSAULT AGAINST THE HOSTILE EMPLACEMENTS. AT THIS TIME SERGEANT SILVEIRA WAS MORTALLY WOUNDED, BUT HIS ACTION CONTRIBUTED GREATLY TO THE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF HIS UNIT'S MISSION.. SERGEANT SILVEIRA'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.



Bronze Star For Valor

Air Medal

Purple Heart

National Defense

Vietnam Service

Vietnam Campaign