



1ST CAVALRY  
DIVISION  
(AIRMOBILE)



1ST BATTALION  
50TH INFANTRY

1ST PLATOON



"C" COMPANY



STAFF  
SERGEANT



INFANTRY

## ALLAN L. VAN KEUREN

1st Platoon, "C" Company, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion (Mechanized), 50<sup>th</sup> Infantry

Staff Sergeant, E6, RA16748051, MOS 11B4P

Home of Record: Elkhorn, WI

Date of Birth: December 4, 1942, Age at time of loss: 25, Married

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

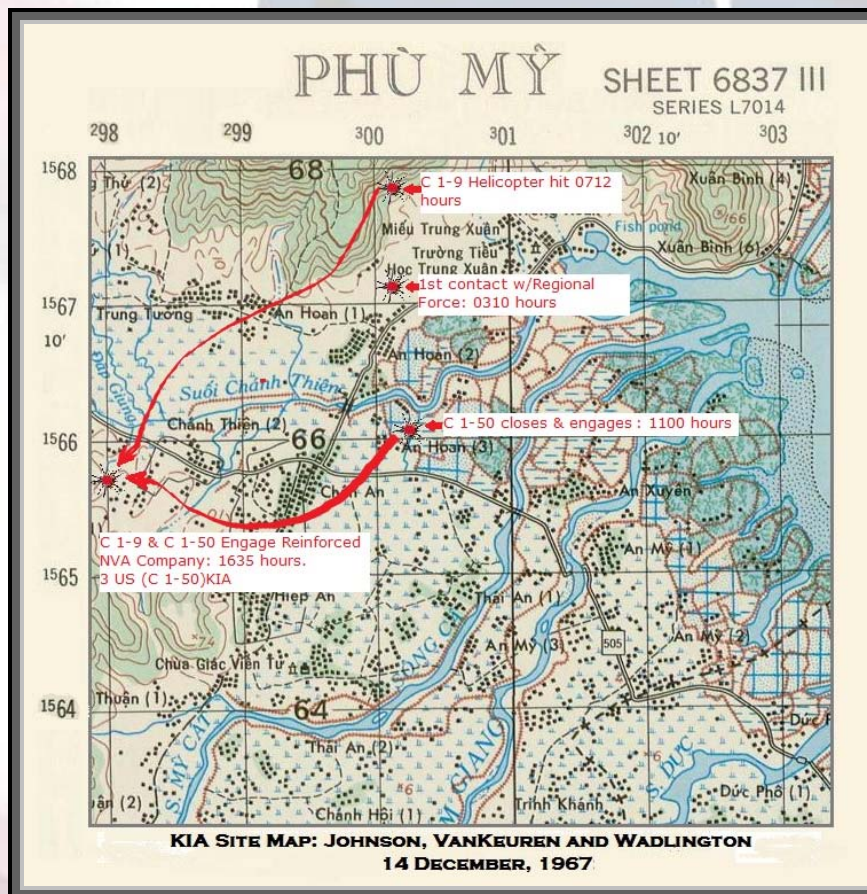
Start of Tour: September 1, 1967, Date of Casualty: December 14, 1967, Days in Country:  
104

Casualty Type A1, Gun, small arms fire, Panel 31E - Row 095

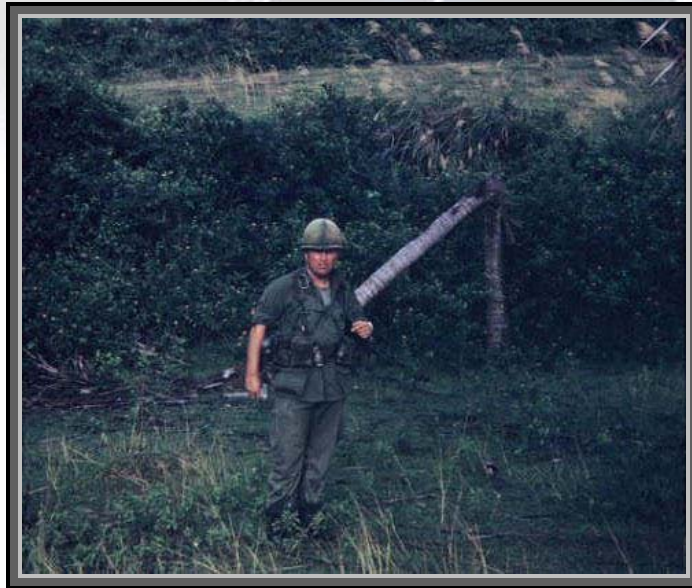
On December 14, 1967, Charlie Company, 1st Battalion (Mechanized), 50th Infantry, elements of the 41st ARVN (Army of the Republic of Vietnam) Regiment and other RF (Regional Forces), became engaged with elements of the 2nd VC Regiment. Two days of heavy contact resulted in 115 NVA (North Vietnamese Army) killed and 5 NVAC (Captured). Read an account of the battle taken from the 1st Cavalry Division Intelligence Summaries for 14 & 15 December, 1967:

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

Allan Van Keuren was killed and posthumously received the Bronze Star with "V" Device (Valor) for this engagement near the village of Trung Xuân in Binh Dinh Province (See map below). Also killed were Wayne Wadlington and Gary Johnson.



Continued...



**SSG Van Keuren is buried at Savanna Cemetery, Savanna, Carroll County, IL. Below is a photo of services at the Veteran's Memorial in the cemetery on Memorial Day, 2010.**

**The 50th Infantry Association wishes to thank Allan's wife Kris for supplying the photos used in this memorial and the Savanna, IL, Shaw-Leavens VFW Post 2223 for remembering Allan each Memorial day.**



Continued...

# ALLAN VAN KEUREN'S AWARDS AND DECORATIONS:



Airborne Jump Wings (Basic Parachutist Badge)



Combat Infantry Badge



THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL  
WITH "V" DEVICE FOR VALOR

HQ 1ST CAVALRY DIVISION (AIRMOBILE)  
GENERAL ORDERS NUMBER 1051

19 FEBRUARY 1968

FOR HEROISM NOT INVOLVING PARTICIPATION IN AERIAL FLIGHT, IN CONNECTION WITH MILITARY OPERATIONS AGAINST A HOSTILE FORCE IN THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM. STAFF SERGEANT VAN KEUREN DISTINGUISHED HIMSELF BY EXCEPTIONALLY VALOROUS ACTION ON 31 OCTOBER 1967, WHILE SERVING AS A SQUAD LEADER WITH COMPANY C, 1ST BATTALION (MECHANIZED), 50TH INFANTRY DURING THE NIGHT DEFENSE OF HIS UNIT'S PERIMETER NEAR QUANG NGHIÊM, BINH DINH PROVINCE, REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM. WHEN HIS UNIT CAME UNDER INTENSE HOSTILE FIRE, SERGEANT VAN KEUREN EXPOSED HIMSELF TO THE ENEMY FIRE AS HE ASSISTED IN THE EVACUATION OF THE WOUNDED MEN. HIS ACTION CONTRIBUTED GREATLY TO THE SUCCESSFUL REPULSION OF THE ENEMY ATTACK. SERGEANT VAN KEUREN'S DISPLAY OF PERSONAL BRAVERY AND DEVOTION TO DUTY WAS IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MILITARY SERVICE AND REFLECTS GREAT CREDIT ON HIMSELF, HIS UNIT, AND THE UNITED STATES ARMY.

HQ 1ST CAVALRY DIVISION (AIRMOBILE)  
GENERAL ORDERS NUMBER 1404

10 MARCH 1968

FOR HEROISM NOT INVOLVING PARTICIPATION IN AERIAL FLIGHT, IN CONNECTION WITH MILITARY OPERATIONS AGAINST A HOSTILE FORCE IN THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM. STAFF SERGEANT VAN KEUREN DISTINGUISHED HIMSELF BY EXCEPTIONALLY VALOROUS ACTION ON 14 DECEMBER 1967, WHILE SERVING AS A PLATOON SERGEANT WITH COMPANY C, 1ST BATTALION (MECHANIZED), 50TH INFANTRY DURING A SEARCH AND CLEAR MISSION NEAR TRUNG XUÂN, BINH DINH PROVINCE, REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM. WHEN HIS UNIT CAME UNDER INTENSE HOSTILE FIRE AND SUSTAINED SEVERAL CASUALTIES, SERGEANT VAN KEUREN REPEATEDLY EXPOSED HIMSELF TO THE ENEMY FIRE AS HE MOVED FROM POSITION TO POSITION DIRECTING HIS PLATOON'S BASE OF FIRE. UPON OBSERVING A MEDICAL AIDMAN ADMINISTERING FIRST AID TO A WOUNDED MAN, SERGEANT VAN KEUREN MOVED FORWARD THROUGH THE OPEN AREA TO PROVIDE COVERING FIRE. AT THIS TIME, SERGEANT VAN KEUREN WAS MORTALLY WOUNDED. HIS DISPLAY OF PERSONAL BRAVERY AND DEVOTION TO DUTY WAS IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MILITARY SERVICE AND REFLECTS GREAT CREDIT ON HIMSELF, HIS UNIT, AND THE UNITED STATES ARMY.



Bronze Star  
(Valor)  
2 Awards



Air Medal



Purple Heart



Good Conduct



National Defense



Vietnam Service



Vietnam Campaign