VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL FUND

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CHAPLAINS IN WARTIME

Since 1775, more than 25,000 chaplains have provided guidance and spirituality for men and women serving in our armed forces. They have been active in more than 270 major combat engagements and more than 400 have died serving their country.

Chaplains in Vietnam offered spiritual guidance, and provided comfort and care to those serving in country, often putting their own lives at risk to do so. Peaking at 300 serving in Vietnam in 1967, the number alone is not representative of the amount of steadfast care and compassion that these men were able to provide. Sixteen of their names are engraved upon the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, and thousands more served their country and fellow man.

CHAPLAINS ON THE VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL

WILLIAM J BARRAGY

While meeting with troops of the 101st Airborne Division on May 4, 1966, Army Chaplain Barragy was killed when the CH-47 he was riding in crashed due to mechanical failure. From Waterloo, Iowa, he was serving the Roman Catholic Church. Panel 7E, Line 22.

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With less than one month left in Vietnam, Army Chaplain Bartley was assisting in the filming of a television program on Vietnam chaplains when he was killed after the explosion of a hostile mine. From Rockbridge Baths, Virginia, he was serving the United Presbyterian Church at MACV headquarters. Panel W23, Line 109.

ROBERT R BRETT

During the siege of Khe Sanh, Navy Chaplain Brett was killed during an artillery attack while caring for the wounded on February 22, 1968. Assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 26th Marine Regiment, Chaplain Brett served the Roman Catholic Church and was known to have provided up to ten masses per day. Panel 40E, Line 58.

MERLE D BROWN

On Easter Sunday 1971, Army Chaplain Brown was calling upon soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry, AMERICAL Division when his helicopter was shot down by enemy fire. From Columbus, Ohio, Chaplain Brown was serving the Lutheran Church. Panel 7E, Line 4.

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<td>AMBROSIO S GRANDEA</td>
<td>While conducting a church service on May 25, 1967, Army Chaplain Grandea was wounded by a hostile mortar round. Evacuated to Clark AFB in his native Philippines he died several days later from infection. He was serving the Methodist Church with the 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry. Panel 21E, Line 97.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROGER W HEINZ</td>
<td>While serving the 5th Special Forces Group, Army Chaplain Heinz was killed when his helicopter crashed into a hillside in poor weather on December 9, 1969. From Coventry, Conn., he was serving the Lutheran Church (Missouri Synod) and left behind a wife and two daughters. Panel W15, Line 42.</td>
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<td>JAMES J L JOHNSON</td>
<td>As a passenger aboard a Navy VC-47 airplane on March 10, 1967, Army Chaplain Johnson died with 14 other service members when the wing failed during a flight. He was serving the Baptist Church in the 4th Infantry Division. Panel 16E, Line 53.</td>
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<td>ALOYSIUS P MCGONIGAL</td>
<td>On February 17, 1968, Army Chaplain McGonigal joined the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines in the final assault on the Citadel in Hue. While administering comfort and last rites, he was killed by small arms fire. A former physics teacher from Washington, D.C. he was serving the Roman Catholic Church. Panel 39E, Line 75.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHILLIP A NICHOLS</td>
<td>Known for his clean green uniforms and guitar playing, Army Chaplain Nichols was killed by an enemy booby trap while travelling between units in the field on October 13, 1970. Serving the Assemblies of God Church, from Kalispell, Mont., he was attached to the 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry, AMERICAL Division. Panel W7, Line 133.</td>
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<tr>
<td>MICHAEL J QUEALY</td>
<td>Against the advice of leadership, Army Chaplain Quealy flew to a battle site near Saigon on November 8, 1966. While administering last rites and comforting the wounded, he was killed by enemy machine gun fire. From New York, N.Y., he was serving the Roman Catholic Church with the 1st Infantry Division. Panel 12E, Line 43.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MORTON H SINGER</td>
<td>Army Chaplain Singer had been in Vietnam for one month when killed while flying aboard a C-123 plane which crashed after takeoff en route to perform Chanukah services on December 17, 1968. From Flushing, N.Y., he served service members of the Jewish faith and was attached to the XXIV Corps. Panel W36, Line 37.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHARLES J WATTERS</td>
<td>While assisting medics and providing spiritual assistance on November 19, 1967, Army Chaplain Watters was killed by fragmentation wounds. For his actions, he posthumously received the Medal of Honor. From Berkeley Heights, N.J., he was serving the Roman Catholic Church with the 173rd Airborne Brigade. Panel 30E, Line 36.</td>
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