

MORTON ELMER TOWNES JR

CLASS 10-65

is honored on Panel 14E, Row 115 of
the Vietnam Veterans Memorial

Full Name: MORTON ELMER TOWNES
JR
Wall Name: MORTON E TOWNES JR
Date of Birth: 10/31/1941
Date of Casualty: 2/3/1967
Date of Death: 2/3/1967
Home of Record: MOBILE
State: AL
Branch of Service: ARMY
Rank: 1LT
Casualty Country: SOUTH VIETNAM
Casualty Province: LAM DONG



1LT Townes served with Battery B, 1st Battalion, 30th Field Artillery. During a raid that the 101st Airborne Division was conducting in February of 1967, his forward observer team was tasked to support a South Vietnamese Special Forces mission.

Due to his experience and professionalism, 1LT Townes actually led the South Vietnamese Special Forces team. The team encountered an ambush and several soldiers were seriously wounded and several were killed. 1LT Townes called for and guided in a MEDEVAC to evacuate the dead and wounded. By the time the MEDEVAC helicopter arrived, 1LT Townes had died from wounds sustained during the ambush. He was awarded the Silver Star for his heroic actions on that day. 1LT Townes and the other members of his FO team were the first combat losses for 1st Battalion, 30th Field Artillery in Vietnam.

In December 2003, Townes Hall, Headquarters for the 1st Battalion 30th Field Artillery Regiment at Fort Sill was dedicated in his honor.

A Great Candidate Officer

Mort was our Bn. Cdr. in OCS at Ft. Sill in 1965. While I was unsuccessful in getting a commission, I well remember Mort and his style of leadership. So many of what was Class 10 and 11 of 1965 are inscribed here with Mort. God Bless them.

Posted by: Richard A. Stender
November 15, 2002

Just a good friend

Townes was my little brother in Officer Candidate School. He was married with children but I never met them. We were in the same artillery battalion. I had just transferred out of the battery he was assigned to so I only saw him a few times in base camp. He was a great guy both in OCS and afterwards. I tried to contact his family after he died but kept running into stonewalls and finally gave up. My prayers are with him and his family

Posted by: Joe Fleming
June 1, 1999

From the Virtual Wall

Mort Townes was the son of a General Officer, but chose to attend OCS rather than West Point. While supporting a combined operation his FO team was ambushed. Mort was severely wounded but continued to direct artillery fire and refused medical attention until the rest of his team was treated. He was awarded the Silver Star for his actions. Lost in the same action were SGT Harold Eugene Lee and SP4 Raymond Carl Davis.

Morton Elmer Townes, Jr will be remembered by many. In December 2003, Townes Hall, Headquarters for the 1st Battalion 30th Field Artillery Regiment at Fort Sill was dedicated in his honor.



1LT Morton E. Townes Jr.



1LT Townes served the 1-30 FA with distinction during the Vietnam conflict. He served with the battalion for two years and was killed in action in Vietnam. He was assigned to Bravo Battery, 1-30 FA. During a raid that the 101st Airborne Division was conducting in February of 1967 in the Lam Dong Province, his forward observer team was tasked to support a South Vietnamese Special Forces mission. Due to his experience and professionalism, 1LT Townes actually led the South Vietnamese Special Forces team. The team encountered an ambush and several soldiers were seriously wounded and several were killed. 1LT Townes called for and guided in a MEDEVAC to evacuate the dead and wounded. By the time the MEDEVAC helicopter arrived, 1LT Townes had died from wounds sustained during the ambush. 1LT Townes and the other members of his FO team were the first combat losses for 1-30 FA in Vietnam.

Morton E. Townes Jr.
Mobile, Alabama
31 October 1941
3 February 1967
LZ DOG
Lam Dong Province
Panel 14E - Row 115

Headquarters, 1st Battalion, 30th Field Artillery
Fort Sill, Oklahoma