



SP4 Gene A. Myers

Specialist Fourth Class Gene A. Myers was born on May 21, 1948 in Marysville while his parents were living in a farm north of Beattie. As an only child, his family moved to a farm near Barnes where he attended Barnes High School before moving again to Waterville where he graduated from Waterville High School in 1966. After graduation, his family moved to St. Marys where he worked at a local lumber company until he was drafted by the U.S. Army under the Selective Service System leaving for training in April of 1968. He received training at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri and Fort Ord, California and arrived in Vietnam in September of 1968. He was assigned to C Company, 2nd Battalion, 16th Regiment, 1st Infantry Division. Throughout 1969, his unit performed numerous and varied missions. It was during one of these operations on June 9, 1969 that SP4 Myers was killed by hostile enemy small arms fire in the Binh Duong province of South Vietnam.

Gene spent his life in rural Kansas working on the family farm. He was a quiet, devout person who got along with everyone. Affectionally known as “spotty” by his friends he enjoyed being with his family and hunting and fishing. He was a member of the Barnes Christian Church for many years. He played football and basketball. In his last letter home to his parents he remarked “Keep the home fires burning,...I am coming home,” having only 88 days left in his tour of duty.

His funeral services were held at the Barnes Christian Church on June 22, 1969. He was buried in Riverside Cemetery in Waterville with full military honors provided by an honor guard from Fort Riley.