



Sergeant Allen W. McNeil

Allen W McNeil, a son of Warren H McNeil and Fae Wilde McNeil, was born on January 6, 1947, in Francis, Utah. As a young boy, he enjoyed all outdoor activities from sports to horseback riding. He spent many hours outside playing with the numerous cousins and friends who lived in lower Francis town. He worked hard on his family farm to help support the family. He attended schools in Kamas, Utah and excelled in football and wrestling. He graduated from South Summit High School in 1965 and attended Utah State University before enlisting in the Army in July of 1966.

After completing Basic Combat Training School and Advanced Infantry School, he earned his Airborne wings at Fort, Benning, Georgia and served with the 101st Airborne Division at Fort Campbell, Kentucky.

He was sent to South Vietnam in December 1967 where he was assigned to Company C, 1st Battalion, 506th Infantry Regiment which was part of the 101st Airborne Division. Sergeant Allen W. McNeil was killed in action on May 12, 1968, in the Binh Duong Province, South Vietnam. For his service to his Country, he was awarded a Purple Heart, the National Defense Medal, Good Conduct Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal, the Bronze Star with V device, the Vietnam Campaign Medal, and the Combat Infantry Badge. His name is located on Panel 59E Line 11 of the Vietnam Memorial.

At the time of his death, he was survived by his parents, along with sisters Dixie, Dorothy, Andrea, and brothers Earl, DeMont and Jay. His body was returned home and he was buried in the Francis, Utah cemetery.

The 101st Airborne Division, nicknamed the Screaming Eagles, was activated on August 15, 1942. It has been deactivated and reactivated several times. The shoulder patch was authorized on August 28, 1942. The black shield suggests the “Iron Brigade” of the Civil War, and the eagle’s head represents “Old Abe”, the mascot of the 8th Wisconsin Volunteer Regiment. The six feathers at the base of the eagle head represent the six military districts of Wisconsin.

The 506th Regiment’s Distinctive Unit Insignia is comprised of the following components: the blue field is for the Infantry. The thunderbolt indicates the regiment's swift striking from the sky. The six parachutes represent the fact that the 506th was in the Sixth Parachute Regiment activated in the U.S. Army. The green silhouette represents Currahee Mountain -- the site of the regiment's activation (Toccoa, Georgia). Currahee is the Cherokee term for “Stands Alone”.



101st Airborne Division



Distinctive Unit Insignia