

# DENNIS JAMES GULLA

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PFC - E2 - Marine Corps - Regular  
19 year old Single, Caucasian, Male  
Born on Mar 16, 1949  
From WARREN, MICHIGAN  
His tour of duty began on Nov 11, 1968  
Casualty was on Feb 03, 1969  
in QUANG NAM, SOUTH VIETNAM  
NON-HOSTILE, GROUND CASUALTY  
ACCIDENTAL HOMICIDE  
Body was recovered  
Religion  
ROMAN CATHOLIC  
  
Panel 33W - - Line 48

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Dennis is buried at Resurrection Cem., Clinton Twp., MI



## Warren GI Killed; Area Flier Missing

A Warren marine was killed in Vietnam, and a center Line Air force Sergeant is reported missing after the crash of an aircraft off the coast of Formosa two days ago, the Defense Department announced today. Marine Corps Pfc. Dennis J. Gulla, son of Mrs. Virginia Gulla, of 4241 Fourteen Mile, Warren, was killed as a result of hostile action in Vietnam.

Sgt. Walter E Bechyne, 28, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Bechyne, of 8414 Wainwright, Center Line, is among 13 U.S. Air Force crewmen reported missing after the crash of a Lockheed HC-130 on which Bechyne was a spotter.

Authorities said that rescue operations are continuing. The plane crashed in icy seas, 70miles south of Formosa while helping in the rescue of a sunken Japanese freighter.

*The Macomb Daily, Feb. 7, 1969, front page*

## Dennis J. Gulla

STERLING HEIGHTS – Services will be held for Marine PFC Dennis J. Gulla, 19, of 4241 Fourteen Mile, at 11 a.m. Saturday, at the Lyle Elliott Funeral Home, 31730 Mound, Warren.

Mass will be at 11:30 a.m. at St. Anne Church, Warren, with Rev. Father Herbert Lorentz officiating.

Burial in Resurrection Cemetery, Clinton Township.

Born March 16, 1949 in Cannonsburg, Pa., he died Monday, Feb. 3, in Quang Nam Province, Vietnam.

He attended Warren High School, was employed at Ford's Sterling Plant and enlisted in August 1968. He was sent to Vietnam in November.

Surviving are his mother, Mrs. Virginia Gulla; three brothers, Peter, Jr., of Sterling Heights, Kevin and David, at home; a sister, Pamela, at home, and grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Gulla, and Mrs. Mary Turco, all of Cannonsburg, Pa.

*The Macomb Daily, February 13, 1969, page 11-B*

## Rifle Accident Kills Marine

STERLING HEIGHTS – A 19 year-old U.S. Marine, wounded by an enemy hand grenade less than two months after arriving in Vietnam, died a month later as a result of accidental shooting.

Private First Class Dennis J. Gulla died Feb. 3 in Quang Nam Province, Vietnam, after a fellow marine's M-16 rifle accidentally discharged while it was being cleaned.

Gulla was awarded the Purple Heart for battlefield wounds caused by the grenade.

He was helping establish an observation post when wounded.

He was hospitalized for a week with wounds of the right arm and back but returned to action.

He notified his brother, Peter, of his wounds but begged that his mother not be informed.

Gulla was the son of Mrs. Virginia Gulla, of 4241 Fourteen Mile Road.

"I was really scared. I (battlefield action) was like driving a car, once I got the feel of things I wasn't scared anymore." Gulla said in a letter to his brother, Peter.

He added that he was looking forward to coming home, after his discharge from the marines to enjoy a rest and did not have any special post-service plans.

Gulla attended Warren High School, was employed at Ford's Sterling Plant and enlisted in the Marines in August of 1968.

He was a rifleman assigned to the Second Battalion of the First marine Division.

Gulla was buried today in Resurrection Cemetery, Clinton Township.

Full graveside military honors were rendered by a unit of Marines of the Brodhead Naval Station. Mass was at St. Anne Church, Warren, with the Rev. Fr. Herbert Lorentz officiating.

*The Macomb Daily Feb. 15, 1969, page 7-A*

