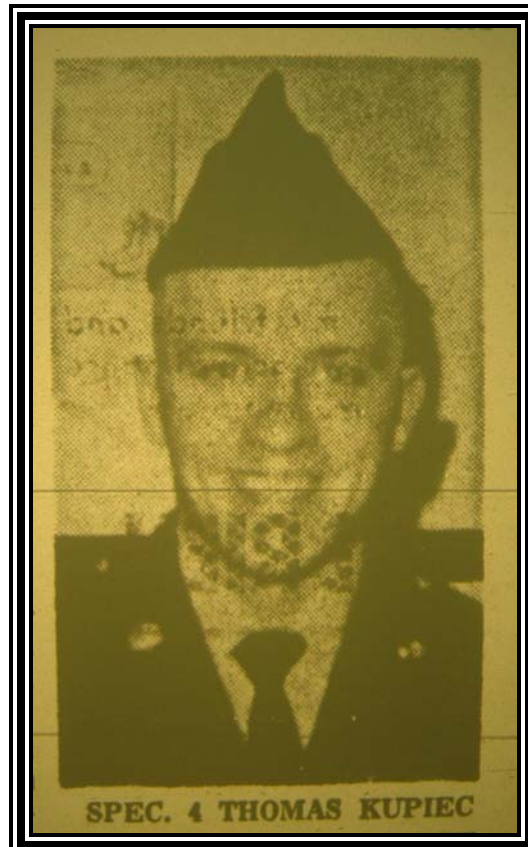


THOMAS MARK KUPIEC

SP4 - E4 - Army - Selective Service
1st Log Command
21 year old Married, Caucasian, Male
Born on May 24, 1947
From WARREN, MICHIGAN
Length of service 1 year.
His tour of duty began on Nov 03, 1968
Casualty was on Dec 17, 1968
in TAY NINH, SOUTH VIETNAM
HOSTILE, GROUND CASUALTY
GUN, SMALL ARMS FIRE
Body was recovered
Religion
ROMAN CATHOLIC

Panel 36W - - Line 36

Thomas is buried at St. Michael's Cemetery, Wilmot, MI



Warren GI dies in Action

WARREN – A soldier who seldom had time to write or sleep wrote seven letters home to his parents in the seven weeks before he was killed.

U.S. Army Specialist Fourth Class Thomas Mark Kupiec, 21, whose wife, Patricia, was living with her parents in Detroit until his return, entered service Sept. 24, 1967 and arrived in Vietnam Nov. 1, 1968.

On Dec. 17, he died from a wound received in a fire fight with hostiles. He was acting as a gunner on a military vehicle.

His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Kupiec, 7204 Timken, Warren, and their daughter Christine, 18, got a letter each week. "The letters came one by one and I saw how terrible it must have been," said his grief-stricken mother. "He was such a good kid. I took care of him for 21 years and the army couldn't take care of him for 47 days."

She said her son had kidney trouble and had had mononucleosis. "He always drank lots of water and they didn't have good water. I just knew he couldn't survive," she said.

"Why don't they wake up in Washington," she said sadly. "There are so many broken hearts. He loved his wife so much. In December he told me to stop sending packages and to use the money to send her some roses. He must have had a premonition," she sobbed. One of his more recent letters told of "Viet Cong left and right" with only a little hutch for protection. And then the young man who, his mother said, "didn't want to kill," was himself killed while acting as a gunner.

Spec. 4 Kupiec was a graduate of Lincoln High School in Warren. Funeral arrangements will be made by Wasik Funeral Home, 12530 E. Seven Mile in Detroit.

The Macomb Daily, Dec. 24, 1968, 2nd front page