

# RONNIE LEE OBNEY

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PFC - E3 - Army - Regular  
1st Cav Division (AMBL)  
18 year old Single, Caucasian, Male  
Born on Sep 07, 1949  
From EAST DETROIT, MICHIGAN  
His tour of duty began on Mar 24, 1968  
Casualty was on May 08, 1968  
in QUANG TRI, SOUTH VIETNAM  
HOSTILE, GROUND CASUALTY  
MULTIPLE FRAGMENTATION WOUNDS  
Body was recovered  
Religion  
BAPTIST

Panel 57E - - Line 8

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Ronnie is buried at Ft. Donaldson Nat'l Cem., Dover, TN



### **Two Macomb Soldiers Killed in Vietnam**

Two Macomb County GI's were among eight Michigan servicemen killed in action in Vietnam, according to the latest Defense Department report.

Killed were Army **Sgt. Donald E. Honeycott**, husband of Mrs. Joyce Honeycott, 51570 Shelby Road, Utica; and Army **Pfc. Ronnie F. Obney**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Leroy L. Obney, 24632 Brittany, East Detroit. *Macomb Daily, May 15, 1968, page 5A*

### **PFC Ronnie L. Obney**

EAST DETROIT – Services for PFC Ronnie L. Obney, 18, of 24632 Brittany, will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday at the Beulah Assembly of God Church, Mouth Clemens, with the Rev. Ambrose Cuppetelli, officiating.

PFC Obney was killed in action in Vietnam May 8.

Born Sept. 7, 1949, in Clarksville, Tenn., he attended Grant School here until 1966. He enlisted in the Army Oct. 16, 1967 and was sent to Vietnam six weeks ago.

He is survived by his parents LeRoy and Mary Obney; two brothers, Gary and William, both living at home; a sister, Mrs. Wanda Scarsella, of Detroit, and his maternal grandmother Mrs. Lina Atkins, of Dover, Tenn.

FRIENDS may call between 7:30 and 10 p.m. at the Kaul Funeral Home, 27830 Gratiot, Roseville. The Corp. Neil Reid VFW Post 2358 will hold memorial services at 8 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home.

The body will lie in state at the Beulah Assembly of God Church from 100 a.m. Wednesday until time of service.

Further services will be held Saturday at the Milliken and Ridgeway Funeral Home, Dover, Tenn. Burial will be in Ft. Donaldson National Cemetery, Dover, with full military honors.

*Macomb Daily, May 21, 1968, page 2A*

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### **With Comrades he never knew**

#### **Special Burial Planned for GI**

EAST DETROIT- Whenever Ron Obney's parents took him back down to Tennessee, the young boy always wanted to go to nearby Fort Donaldson. Someone might of seen what was coming even then.

"He loved that place" recalled his mother. "It was strange; but the thing he loved best of all was the army cemetery there. He would stand and look at those rows of crosses for hours.

His father, Leroy, might have sensed something back when Ron would beg him to talk about his World War II army days. Or his brother Gene, when they joked about volunteering in their early teens.

LAST YEAR at 17, Ron brought home enlistment papers for his parents to sign. His father ripped them up and threw them away, but it was already far to late.

"There was never any real doubt about it though." Nodded Mrs. Leroy Obney, sitting quietly in the living room of their home at 24632 Brittany.

"All he ever talked about was the army. You should have seen how happy he was the day he came home on his first leave."

Six weeks ago, Ron, tall, thin and 18, was shipped to Vietnam.

HE WROTE back home: "I am here for one reason, and that is for my country and my loved ones.

I will fight for my country and loved ones and perhaps die for them. I am," wrote Ron, "proud to be in the United States Army."

Last week, in the fierce, new Veit Cong offensive around the perimeter of Saigon, PFC Ron Obney was shot to death.

Monday morning, by special permission of the army few could have loved more, Ron Obney will be buried in the cemetery at Fort Donaldson, Tenn.

*Macomb Daily, May 17, 1968, page front page*