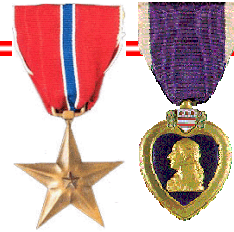


GARY ALBERT UTRIAINEN

SGT - E5 - Army - Regular
9th Infantry Division
19 year old Single, Caucasian, Male
Born on Jan 07, 1951
From WARREN, MICHIGAN
His tour of duty began on Nov 19, 1969
Casualty was on Jun 11, 1970
CAMBODIA
HOSTILE, GROUND CASUALTY
GUN, SMALL ARMS FIRE
Body was recovered
Religion
LUTHERAN & MISSOURI SYNOD

Panel 09W - - Line 46

Gary is buried at Glen Eden Cemetery, Livonia, MI



19-Year-Old Sergeant Dies in Cambodia

A Warren youth was killed June 11 in Cambodian conflict. Army Sgt. Gary A. Utriainen, 26257 Grobbel, was killed while a passenger on a military vehicle during an enemy attack.

The 19-year-old infantry sergeant was a student at Charles S. Mott High School prior to enlisting Feb. 23, 1968. There is a flag at half-mast in front of his parent's home. Mr. and Mrs. Tuano A. Utriainen said in his last letter home, Gary had written that when his enlistment was up he was going back to school.

He had been in Vietnam for eight months.

A younger brother, David, and an older sister, Susan, still live at home. He also has two married sisters; Mrs. Marcia Cumming, 1213 Ferris in Royal Oak, and Mrs. Oreen Cumming, 642 East Shevlin in Hazel Park.

Warren GI is killed in Cambodia action

A Warren soldier, Army Sgt. Garry A. Utriainen, 19, has been killed in Cambodia.

Utriainen, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Tauno A. Utriainen, died last Thursday of wounds received when the military vehicle on which he was riding encountered an enemy force.

Utriainen was a platoon sergeant in the 9th Infantry Division. He had attended Mott High School, Warren, before enlisting on Feb. 23, 1968, at 17.

He was sent to Vietnam last Nov. 19 and subsequently reenlisted, his father said, so he could serve a full year there.

Utriainen is survived by his parents, a younger brother and three sisters.

Funeral arrangements are pending.

Sgt. Gary Utriainen

Sgt. Gary Albert Utriainen, age 19, 26257 Grobbel, Warren, was killed in action June 11 in Cambodia. Sgt. Utriainen was born Jan. 7, 1951, in Michigan, to Mr. and Mrs. Tauno (Virginia) Utriainen, of the Grobbel address.

Also surviving are four brothers and sisters, Mrs. Orren Cumming, Hazel Park; Mrs. Marcia Cumming, Royal Oak, Susan and David, of the home address; and his grandmother, Mrs. Lyndia Miller.

The Rev. Elsie Beale, Hazel Park Lutheran Church, will conduct funeral services at 11 a.m., Saturday, at the Ford Funeral Home, 26560 Van Dyke, Center Line. Burial will be in Glen Eden Cemetery, Livonia.

Warren GI Wins Medal Posthumously

WARREN – The Bronze Star with the first Oak Leaf Cluster, was presented to Mr. and Mrs. Tauno A. Utriainen, of 26257 Grobbel, Warren, for their son. Sgt. Gary A. Utriainen, who was killed in Cambodia last year while saving the lives of some of his comrades.

The medal was presented to the parents, during a home ceremony, by Lieutenant Theodore W. Herrmann, a Survivor Assistance Officer at the U.S. Army Tank-Automotive Command (TACOM)

Sgt. Utriainen, 19, was on a military vehicle when a hostile force was encountered. Sgt. Utriainen's subsequent bravery is related in the following citation which accompanied the medal:

Sgt. Utriainen distinguished himself by heroism in connection with ground operations against a hostile force on June 12, 1970, while serving as squad leader with Company C, 2nd Battalion, 47th Infantry, 3^d Brigade, 9th Infantry Division.

“On this date, Company C was engaged by an enemy force which attacked with rocket-propelled grenades, automatic weapons and semi-automatic weapons from well-concealed positions.

“A ...grenade hit one of the lead vehicles, severally wounding several men, and badly damaging the vehicle. Sgt. Utriainen, disregarding his own safety, made his way to the burning vehicle and began moving some of the wounded men to safety. While Sgt. Utriainen was assisting one of the men to safety, he was fatally wounded by enemy fire

. His heroic actions were highly instrumental in saving the lives of several men.”

A Volunteer, Sgt. Utriainen enlisted in the Army in February 1968, and arrived in Vietnam in November 1969.

