



25<sup>TH</sup> INFANTRY  
DIVISION



4<sup>TH</sup> CAVALRY



50<sup>TH</sup> INFANTRY



"F" COMPANY



SPECIALIST FOUR



INFANTRYMAN

## CHARLES DENNIS "DENNY" PEKNY

1st Platoon, "C" Troop, 3rd Squadron, 4th Cavalry  
Transfer in June from : "F" Company (Long Range Patrol), 50th Infantry  
Specialist Four, E4, US54818116, MOS 11B20  
Home of Record: Lombard, IL

Date of Birth: December 17, 1946, Age at time of loss: 21, Single  
25th Infantry Division, Binh Duong Province, Republic of Vietnam  
Start of Tour: December 17, 1967, Date of Casualty: July 25, 1968, Days in Country: 205  
Casualty Type A1, Ground Casualty, MFW, Panel 50W - Row 009

Charles "Denny" Pekny was a standout Wrestling Team athlete in High School as well as the Varsity Football Team Manager. He was drafted into the Army sometime during 1966.

In Basic Combat Training at Fort Leonard Wood, his excellent physical condition and leadership qualities secured him the "acting Platoon Sergeant" rank...the highest ranked position available to the new recruits.

Shortly after arriving in Vietnam on his 21st birthday, he was assigned to "C" Troop, 3rd Squadron, 4th Cavalry, 25th Infantry Division and subsequently volunteered for duty with the Division's Long Range Patrol unit, Company F (LRP), 50th Infantry. He served as a member of Team Cobra 22 until June of 1968 when he returned to the aero-rifle "C" Troop, 3rd of the 4th Cav and served as a rifleman in the 1st Platoon.

At 6:20 AM on the morning of July 25th, Specialist Pekny's 1st Platoon was participating in morning road security sweep operations when they were ambushed by approximately 4 to 6 Vietnamese Communists who fired 4 to 6 RPG's and small arms at the platoon...striking a Tank and Armored Personnel Carrier with rockets which wounded 3 men and killed Specialist Pekny. The action took place as the enemy fired from their concealed positions within a civilian village north of the approaches to the Phu Cuong Bridge on Route 8A, North of Saigon. Above is a map of the location of Specialist Pekny's combat mission.



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During the firefight that ensued, 2 civilians were wounded and 2 were killed as the Viet Cong used the innocent locals as shields in their attack. The Communists escaped unharmed.

Denny Pekny is buried at Chapel Hill Gardens Cemetery, Roosevelt Rd, Oakbrook Terrace, DuPage County, IL



### AWARDS AND DECORATIONS OF DENNY PEKNY:



Combat Infantry Badge

