

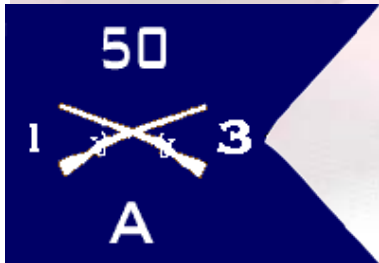


1ST
CAVALRY DIVISION
(AIRMOBILE)



1ST BATTALION 50TH
INFANTRY

3RD PLATOON



"A" COMPANY



PRIVATE
FIRST CLASS



INFANTRYMAN

WILLIAM VELLILLA

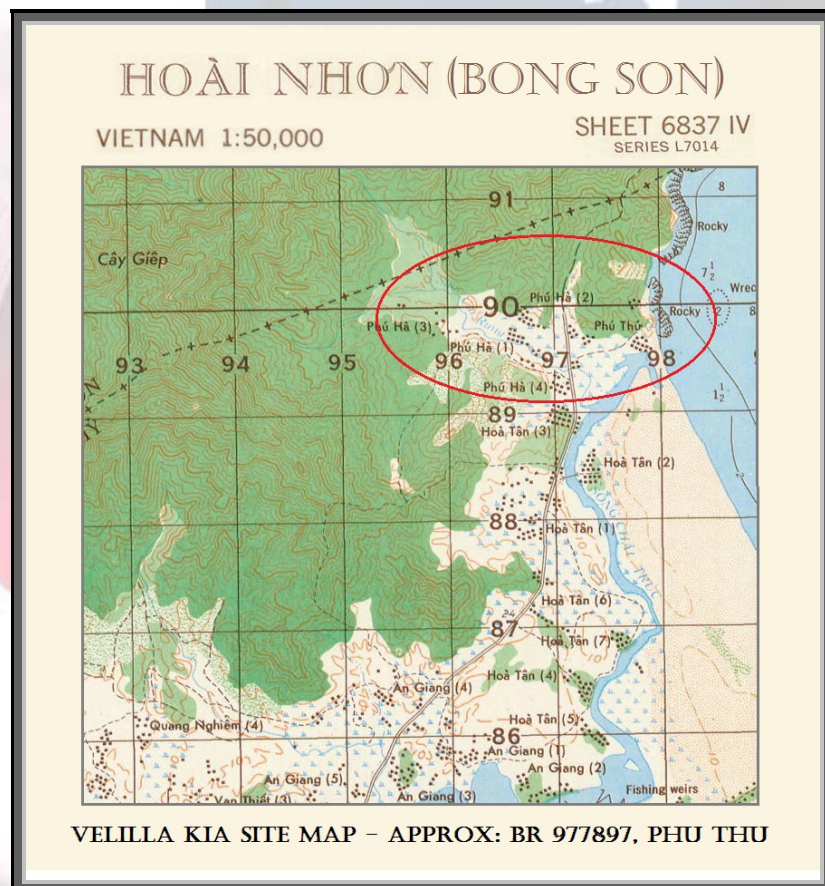
1st Squad, 3rd Platoon, "A" Company, 1st Battalion (Mechanized), 50th Infantry
PFC, E3, US67039793, MOS 11B10
Home of Record: New York, NY

Date of Birth: October 20, 1947, Age at time of loss: 20, Single
1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), Binh Dinh Province, Republic of Vietnam
Start of Tour: June 5, 1967, Date of Casualty: November 16, 1967, Days in Country: 164
Casualty Type A1, MFW, Panel 30E - Row 005

William Velilla was killed when he stepped on a land mine assumed to be a booby trapped 81mm mortar round on November 16 of 1967. Velilla was with the 1st Squad, 3rd Platoon of "A Company

A company sized Combat Assault positioned the men of Velilla's "A" Company somewhere in the vicinity (West) of Phu Thu on the South China Sea. They were moving down towards the coastal village for a cordon and search when the incident occurred. Injured in the blast was Richard Roeder who, along with fire team leaders Napoleon "Solo" Hines and Chuck Spotts confirmed this incident.

A map of the approximate location is shown below.



Continued...

William Velilla is buried at Long Island National Cemetery, Wellwood Avenue, Farmingdale, Suffolk County, New York (Photos below). His stone reflects information sent in a DA Form 2496 which stated "D" Co, 50th Cav" in error.

We were able to obtain a copy of Velilla's personnel records showing his last assigned unit was indeed "A" Company. He may have been earmarked to be transferred to "D" Company which was being formed at the time of his death... but the transfer had not officially taken place.



AWARDS AND DECORATIONS OF WILLIAM VELILLA



Combat Infantry Badge



Purple Heart

National Defense

Vietnam Service

Vietnam Campaign