



Remembrance

Vietnam Faces of the Fallen

Princeton Class of 1966



Remembering Edwin Keeble by Walter Stockman '66

“Of all of our Princeton classmates, I was probably closest physically to the incident in which Ed Keeble died, in Vietnam, in 1969. We were both helicopter pilots in the Marine Corps and stationed at Quang Tri in Vietnam in February of 1969. Quang Tri was the airfield closest to the North Vietnam border, literally scant miles away.

Ed was my roommate at Princeton, together with 10 other classmates. Shortly after Princeton, I attended and was in his wedding to Alice Collins. We were close friends at Princeton and in the Marine Corps. In the Marine Corps, we went through training together and later served together in Vietnam. So, I knew Ed well and we were close friends.

In Vietnam, Ed was flying HUIE gunships and I was flying the Sikorski CH 53. As I said above, we were both stationed in Quang Tri in February of 1969, in two different squadrons. Mostly, in my case, our missions had us flying out of Quang Tri East into the Asha Valley or, in the case of Ed, he flew his last mission to Laos. At any time, on any given day, we could and did encounter ground fire or handheld missiles. As I understand it, Ed took ground fire and crashed with all aboard dying in the crash.

I distinctly remember how I heard about Ed’s crash. I was in the medical tent at our airfield receiving treatment and someone came in while I was sitting on a medical table and announced that Ed had taken fire and crashed and all aboard had died.