

JOHN LAWRENCE BURGESS SP5

Submitted by

mark kapinos
schmur705@yahoo.com
rest well my cav brother
Saturday, April 05, 2003

Submitted by

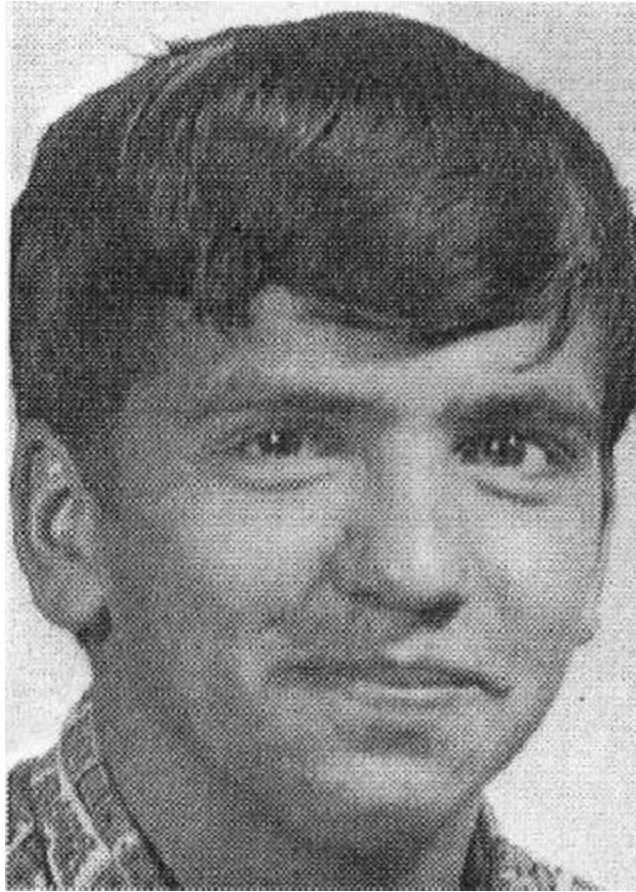
Kimberly Kimmel-Ober
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admirer
Encinitas, California United States of America
For Specialist Burgess and all those who knew him and loved him, I just want to say thank you for your dedication and sacrifice! Please know that you have not been forgotten and always will hold a special place in my heart! It would have been nice to have known you as a person, and I greatly appreciate your service! I just wish you did not have to pay so high a price! You forever will be a hero in my eyes!
Wednesday, April 10, 2002

Submitted by

Suzi Coffman
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Mr Anderson's History Student
Sam Houston High School, 2000 Sam Houston Dr.
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My Adopted MIA
Specialist 5th class John L. Burgess, my name is Suzi. I am a 2001 Junior at Sam Housto High School in Arlington, TX. As part of a class assignment on Vietnam MIA's, I learned your story and shared it with my classmates. I learned of your sacrifice and will remember you. Suzi Coffman
Wednesday, May 09, 2001

Submitted by

Art Dembinski



John L Burgess from his 1967 high school yearbook
Monday, May 30, 2005

Submitted by

Art Dembinski

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First cousin once removed

2432 10th St.

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Aanii!

My first cousin once removed, SP5 John Lawrence Burgess, was KIA in Viet Nam 30 June 1970. He was the crew chief of a Huey brought down by enemy fire. Only one of the five men on board survived the crash and the fire afterward. I am indebted to John Goosman, who survived to tell me some of their story. John was born Larry Waukazoo, an Ottawa Indian, in the Indian village of Peshawbestown in Michigan in 1949; he was adopted by the Burgess family. I never knew about him until years afterward when I researched our family's history. I doubt John Lawrence ever knew about his grandfather Ed Waukazoo a veteran of WWI, his great-grandfather Joseph Waukazoo who was shot while fighting with the all-Indian Company K of the 1st Michigan Sharpshooters between Washington and Richmond in the Civil War, or about his great-great-grandfather Pen-dun-wan, Chief Peter Waukazoo, who in the

1840's played a vital role in preserving the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians to the present day. In 2005 the Band celebrates the 25th anniversary of the re-recognition of its tribal status by the federal government. The bodies of the other men killed in the crash were recovered, except for that of John Lawrence, which was most likely burned to ashes. His ashes are mixed with the soil of the forest somewhere on the border between southern Viet Nam and Cambodia, a place which for his tribal relations will always be Indian country.

Sunday, May 29, 2005

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