

Walter Lee Huffman, T-67

2 November 1949 – 16 May 1970

(aged 20)



Yesterday morning - eight months, 20 days and 30 minutes after he reported, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Huffman of 2693 Kimball were awakened and told that their son, Corporal Huffman, had been killed in Cambodia. He was the second Shelby Countian to be killed in that country since President Nixon ordered American soldiers into it on 30 April 1970.

"He never once complained - not once in the whole time that he has been in the Army," said his mother yesterday.

Mrs. Huffman speaking softly, said an Army officer told them only that their son was killed Saturday during combat operations in Cambodia. He was a private first class with the First Cavalry Division, "We're expecting a telegram any minute now."

The 20-year-old machine gunner, who had been overseas since February, is the 202nd Memphis casualty in the war in Indochina.

Before August of last year the young private was a mechanic working at P&S Automotive Service on Poplar. He also worked at J. C. Penney Distribution Center on Channel. "He was a young man," said his mother. "He hadn't had very much chance to work."

He was graduated from Tech High School and was a member of Lamar Heights Baptist Church. "He was just a good, American Christian boy," said Mrs. Huffman. "He was a little fellow, too. He only weighed 110 pounds when he went in."

And then in a confused tone she said, "I hate for him to have been killed in Vietnam, but I would have hated for him to be killed like those college students too."

Private Huffman also leaves a brother, Johnny Huffman of the Kimball address, and his grandmother, Mrs. D. T. Henderson of Fizer.

