

PFC RONNIE E. NORRIS

RONNIE EUGENE NORRIS

Greer, Greenville County, South Carolina

March 31, 1945 - December 27, 1966

Vietnam War — Army (Private First Class)

Specialty — Field Artillery Basic

1st Cavalry Division, 6th Battalion, 16th Artillery, C Battery

Casualty Type — Died through hostile action .. small arms fire

LZ (landing zone) Bird the Crow's Foot -

Kim Son River, South Vietnam, Binh Dinh province

Cross Roads Baptist Church Cemetery, Greer, Greenville County, South Carolina

Notable Awards — Purple Heart

Ronnie Eugene Norris is buried or memorialized at

Cross Roads Baptist Church Cemetery, Greer, Greenville County, South Carolina.

Ronnie is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington DC.

Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 13e, Line 85.



COMMENDATIONS

Purple Heart

Bronze Star with Valor

Combat Infantryman Badge

National Defense Service Medal

Vietnam Campaign Medal

Vietnam Service Medal

Army Presidential Unit Citation

Vietnam Gallantry Cross

Army Good Conduct Medal



He Believed In The War

Greer GI Dies After 'Waiting For Charlie'

By CHARLES McFALL
News Staff Writer

GREER — A Greer couple Wednesday received a letter from their son in Vietnam that he was spending the Christmas truce in the fields "waiting for Charlie."

The same day, the couple was notified that their 21-year-old son, Pfc. Ronnie E. Norris, was dead, killed by "Charlie" (the Viet Cong) the day after the shaky truce officially ended.

He also wrote that he was "about to go nuts" because a gun which exploded killing his sergeant and a buddy was left in the same position—a mute monument.

Earlier, he had written that he believed in the war and that

if his family were there, they would, too.

His father said he did not elaborate, but had also written that "after you are over there a while you appreciate any kind of food. Your stomach turns to iron." He also said that he often went two weeks without a change of clothes.

The victim's father does not believe in the Vietnam war the way it is now being fought.

"If they are going to fight, they should declare war and get it over with," he said. "They take our boys over there and their hands are tied. They won't let them do what they are supposed to do."

He said his son had written that they were ordered not to fire until they were fired on.

Truce Ends



PFC. RONNIE E. NORRIS



GREENVILLE PIEDMONT,

GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA

MONDAY, MAY 22, 1967

Receives Bronze Star



PFC RONNIE E. NORRIS

The Bronze Star will be presented at a special ceremony Sunday at the morning worship services at Pelham Baptist Church, May 21, 1967. The posthumous award will be made to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Norris of Pelham. Pfc. Norris was killed in action in Vietnam, December 27, 1966. He was a 1965 graduate of Greer Senior High School.



Heroic Son Honored

MR. AND MRS. THOMAS E. NORRIS of 14 Inglesby St., Greer, receive the Bronze Star Medal with "V" device for heroism for their son, Pfc. Ronnie E. Norris, who was killed in Vietnam in December. Making the presentation is Capt. Fletcher B. Smith Jr., Ordnance Corp. (News-Piedmont photo)