

MISSOURI STATE SOCIETY DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Proudly Honors



FREDRICK V. BOHL

UNITED STATES ARMY

SPECIALIST 5 (E-5)

JANUARY 31, 1966 – JANUARY 30, 1969

WOUNDED IN ACTION

as

PURPLE HEART PATRIOT

AUGUST 2025

Honoring His Service and Sacrifice

Sponsored by: Montgomery Chapter, NSDAR



Fredrick V. Bohl enlisted in the U.S. Army on January 31, 1966, reporting to St. Louis for tests, then to Fort Leonard Wood for basic training. Fred was asked what he would like to do in the army, and he told them he did not know but liked working with wrenches, so he was sent to Fort Hood, Texas, to become a tank and armor carrier mechanic with the 1st Cavalry Unit from Fort Hood.

His boat ride from California to Vietnam took a month, landing at Chu Lalwhich, which was 25-35 miles from the DMZ (demilitarized zone) along Hwy 1. Then he was moved to camp sites that were listed as numbers, and he could not remember the numbers. They took turns to guard the camp, and one night in 1968, he and five to six other guys were on guard duty when Fred heard a whistling sound and knew that was what the mortars sounded like coming over before they exploded. His leader told him to run to the lieutenant and tell him to get out there. He does not remember why or how, but on the way, Fred fell into a water hole, got up, and gave

the message to the lieutenant. The lieutenant said he was not going out in the open during mortar fire. At the command tent, a medical soldier noticed that Fred had blood showing through his clothing just below the neckline, but Fred told the guys to help those who were coming in more hurt than him. A little later, Fred was not feeling good and coughing up blood, so they looked him over and found two places of blood, with the second one just below his ribs. They placed him on a helicopter to take him to the medical hospital at Quin Yan, Vietnam, with mortar fire around them. He spent two weeks in the hospital and was released to go back to his unit. They flew him close to the camp, and then he walked to catch up with his unit.

Fred received a Purple Heart Medal, the Bronze Star, the National Defense Medal, and a Vietnam Service Medal.

After leaving Vietnam, he was assigned to Fort Knox, Kentucky, where he served his last four to five months before being discharged from the Army.