



**John Charles Sigg Co E-2**

*From a painter's scaffold, via the U.S. Army, the blonde Prussian arrived at West Point having already tasted a little cadet life at U.S.M.A.P.S. In keeping with his Prussian heritage, Jack developed deep motivation. He used 100% effort whether studying Yogi, philosophy, or juice, or playing on the fields of friendly strife.*

**Born** – 19 Feb 1938, Johnstown, PA

**To USMA** – Came from Johnstown, PA.

Appointed by Pennsylvania 22nd. Nickname – “Jack”.

**Died** – 28 May 1965 (age 27) killed-in-action (KIA), Vietnam. Buried at Grandview Cemetery, Johnstown, PA.

**Military Awards** – Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart, Combat Infantryman's Badge, Vietnamese Gallantry Cross.

**Schooling** – Rhodes Scholar Nominee, Military Intelligence School, Defense Foreign Language Institute.

**Family** - Unknown.

**Contact** – Unknown.

Jack served on active duty in the Army (Armor) for 4 years, until his untimely death in Vietnam in 1965, with the rank of Captain. His first assignment was with the 11<sup>th</sup> Armored Cavalry Regiment in Germany (Platoon Leader and Troop Commander). He then served at Ft. Hollabird, MD (Military Intelligence School), Monterey, CA (Defense Language Institute), and then Vietnam (Military Advisor) where he was killed-in-action (KIA) on 28 May 1965.

On arrival in Vietnam, Jack was immediately assigned to a job in the G-3 section of an advisory group, but, quite in keeping with his spirit of “Let me try,” he soon managed a transfer to the Field as Advisor to an RVN armored infantry troop. Less than three weeks later, while he was away attending an Advisors' meeting, his unit was committed to battle with the mission of destroying a concentration of Viet Cong occupying a village. Returning and finding his troop gone, Jack could very easily have waited and read the results of the engagement in official dispatches. Instead, the same sense of integrity which set him apart from other men, called him to duty, and on 28 May he caught a ride on a helicopter and arrived in the area of operations in time for the final assault. During that assault and in the thick of the fire fight, he stood up in the hatch of the command personnel carrier to fire on a group of Viet Cong at a distance of 30 yards away. In doing so, he exposed himself to a burst from a machine gun firing unseen from his right rear, and he fell back into the carrier wounded in the abdomen, just below his armored vest. The ride to the nearest aid station was a long one, and sometime during that ride Jack lost the fight for life.

Footnote – Jack learned early in life that “.....of all the creatures on earth, only man has been gifted with the ability to reason.....” and he set out to make the best use he could of his share of what he considered a precious gift. On graduation from junior high school, Jack wrote – “We all look toward the future with great anticipation, anxious to receive the greater problems and the greater rewards awaiting us.”