Edward John Hughes, Jr.
Captain
November 24, 1937 - May 9, 1968

3rd Recon Battalion, Charlie Company 1962 – 1963

In April 1963, 1st Lt Hughes and a reinforced platoon from Charlie Company were deployed to Viet Nam in support of a Marine aviation task force code named SHUFLY. The task force was the first Marine Corps unit to deploy to the Republic of Vietnam. Marine helicopter squadrons from the task force operated on a daily basis in the heart of Viet Cong controlled areas where they were frequently exposed to hostile fire at extremely close range.

In addition to providing security for the Da Nang Airbase, Lt. Hughes and his platoon were used to provide force protection for the squadrons in hot LZs. They were also assigned as a fast reaction force and utilized for search and air rescue missions.

Lt. Hughes served 2 additional combat tours in Viet Nam. However, on his last tour Captain Hughes was killed-in-action May 9, 1968, in Quang Tri Province, Republic of Vietnam, while serving with D Company, 1st Battalion, 26th Marines, 3rd Marine Division, III MAF.

Lt. Hughes was our leader, mentor and friend. Rest in peace....

Semper Fidelis, Neil Grissom, Wade Hudson & John Gariano