

Brian Lee Webber (November 1, 1944 – December 8, 1968)
(By the Webber Family)

Brian Webber was born at the Balboa Naval Hospital in San Diego on November 1, 1944 the son of Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Webber, and the older brother of Eric. The family moved to Chula Vista in 1950 and later lived in Bonita.



Brian was student body Vice-President at Hilltop High School, a varsity track letterman, and member of the Key Club. He graduated in 1962, and attended the University of New Mexico as a member of the Naval ROTC. He was the Drill Team Commander, a member of Phi Delta Theta Fraternity and Sigma Tau Engineering honor society. He also attended parachute training at Ft. Benning, GA, and made numerous jumps with a recon unit in Albuquerque to earn his Gold “Jump” Wings.

After graduating from UNM in 1966, Brian was commissioned a 2/Lt in the U.S. Marine Corps. Upon completion of The Basic School in Quantico, VA, he was awarded the Leadership Award, finishing first in leadership and fourth overall in a class of 516. He then attended a 39-week course at the Defense Language Institute in Washington, DC, where he studied Vietnamese.

Lt. Webber was posted to Viet Nam in August 1968 and reported to “Mike” Company 3/26. Within a few weeks, he was wounded by rocket fire and was hospitalized in Da Nang. Upon recovery, he returned as Executive Office of “India” company 3/26.

In early December, Lt. Webber successfully led an assault against a bunker complex. The next week, during Operation Meade River, a similar assault caught his unit in intense sniper fire. Lt. Webber was mortally wounded on December 8, 1968 while moving about the battleground assisting wounded Marines. He was awarded the Silver Star posthumously for his actions during this operation. Lt Webber’s decorations also include two Purple Hearts, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, National Order of Viet Nam, and Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Palm.

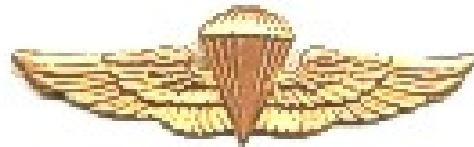
Lt Webber was buried on December 23, 1968 at Ft. Rosecrans National Cemetery on Point Loma. His grave is located at Plot D 1201-C, adjacent to fellow Hilltop HS alumnus Mike Rambur.

Lt. Webber’s name appears on the Viet Nam Veterans Memorial in Washington, DC on Panel 37W/Row 71. In recognition of Lt. Webber’s commitment to the values of the Marine Corps, Camp Pendleton dedicated the Webber Family Center to honor his memory. His name is also memorialized in the UNM Chapel, on a New Mexico veteran’s website for those who died in Vietnam, on the San Diego Peace Memorial in Balboa

Park, as well as at Memorial Park in Chula Vista. In 2006, his name was honored by the city of Chula Vista by a street named Webber Way in the McMillin Development of Lomas Verdes. His name was also added to the Stardust Spacecraft in a NASA microchip as an outreach program. Further information can be found at:

<http://stardust.jpl.nasa.gov/overview/microchip/faq.html>.

The City of Chula Vista and McMillin Development honored Brian Webber in 2006 by naming a street in the Lomas Verdes subdivision Webber Way.



Lt Webber was awarded the Silver Star, Two Purple Hearts, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.

