



Lawrence Jeffrey Churchill

Lance Corporal
United States Marine Corps
H Co, 2nd Battalion, 1st Marines, 1st Marine Division
Born 5 February 1948
Killed in Action 18 October 1967
Quang Tri, Vietnam

Lawrence Jeffrey Churchill was born February 5, 1948, in Detroit, Michigan to Vernon and Margaret Churchill, the youngest of their three sons. Vernon Churchill was a career Marine. Vernon and Margaret divorced and Margaret married Floyd R. Johnson. The family made their home on Kenneth Drive in Tustin.

Larry attended Tustin High, graduating in 1966. While in high school, this red haired, freckled face, lanky boy ran on the track team and was a competitive hurdler. He was active at church and dreamed of one day going to Hawaii and owning a Volkswagen. He had hoped to be an architect someday.

After graduation, Larry enlisted in the United States Marines and completed his boot camp training in San Diego, training as a machine gunner. He deployed to Vietnam on March 19, 1967.

His father, Marine First Sergeant Vernon Churchill had received permission to take his sons place in Vietnam and had persuaded Larry to return home. Vernon Churchill arrived in Vietnam on October 18, 1967. When he arrived, Larry Churchill's platoon was on patrol as part of Operation Medina. The platoon was ambushed, killing 32 Soldiers, including Lance Corporal Larry Churchill. Instead of taking his son's place Sgt. Churchill escorted his son's remains home. Lance Corporal Churchill was 19 years old.

He is the recipient of the Combat Action Ribbon, the Vietnam service ribbon with one service star, the Vietnam Campaign Medal, the National Defense Medal, and the Purple Heart. He is buried at Glen Oaks Memorial Park in Chico, California.

