



Jeffrey Lea Martin

2nd Lieutenant
United States Marine Corps
Company F, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines, 1st Marine Division
Born 9 August 1944
Killed in Action 29 July 1968
Quang Nam, Vietnam

Jeffrey Lea Martin was born August 9, 1944, in Farragutt, Idaho the oldest of two children and only son of World War II and active duty soldier Gerard Arthur Martin and Bette Lea Gaskill Martin. The family, along with younger sister Janine, moved to Eveningside Drive in Tustin when Gerard left the military.

Jeff attended Tustin schools, graduating from Tustin High in 1962. He was a Varsity swimmer all four years and attended Orange Coast College before transferring to San Diego State University. A Political Science major, Jeff had leadership roles as the President of his fraternity and a member of the Student Council.

After graduation he entered the United States Marine Corps, completing Officer Candidate School in Quantico Virginia in April 1967.

His father said in a news article that Jeff was proud to serve in the infantry in Vietnam and had turned down an administrative position to do the “grunt” work.

He was the Platoon Leader when on July 23rd, the platoon was attacked by mortar fire. Lt Martin was wounded and taken to a military hospital where he died 3 days later. A Marine Corps buddy wrote a remembrance that “Your laugh, humor, and fun-loving nature will always be remembered. It was however, all surpassed by your love of country, sense of duty, and sacrifice for your Corps and men”.

He is the recipient of the Purple Heart, National Defense Medal, the Vietnam Campaign Medal, and the Vietnam Service Medal. He is buried at Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery in San Diego.

