



## Juan Joseph DeMara

United States Army  
Company A 1st Battalion 506th Infantry 101st Airborne  
Born December 8, 1947  
Killed In Action March 5, 1968  
Vietnam

Juan Joseph DeMara was born in Salinas, California December 8, 1947, the only child of Tedoro and Maria Cisneros DeMara. Teodoro had served in the United States Army Air Force during World War II and was working as a Citrus Ranch farm hand when Juan was born. Shortly after Juan's birth the family moved to the Tustin area, living in the El Modena area of Orange.

Juan attended Tustin schools for 15 years. He loved Cub Scouts and worked hard to earn his badges, attended dances at the Tustin Youth Center, even winning a dance contest, and played Little League baseball throughout his school years. He was an active member of St. Cecilia's Church.

When Juan was 16 years old, his mother passed away. That must have been a life changing event for Juan. Shortly after, his father moved away to Los Angeles and Juan left Tustin High joining the Army before graduation. He listed his grandmother's home in Ventura County as his home of record.

Juan completed his basic training at Fort Ord, California before being sent overseas. Sadly, three months after arriving in Vietnam, Juan was killed by small arms fire. He is buried with family members at Fairhaven Cemetery in Santa Ana.

He is the recipient of the Purple Heart, the Army Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal, and the Vietnam Gallantry Medal Unit Citation.

