

## **CWO Charles E. Holloway**

CWO Charles E. Holloway arrived in Vietnam in November 1962 as a helicopter pilot with the 81st Transportation Company and flew combat missions in support of the Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN).



*81<sup>st</sup> Transportation Company*

On 22 December, 1962, the 81st departed Pleiku carrying ARVN troops to assault a suspected Viet Cong stronghold north of Tuy Hoa. "It was a seaport. We were flying full force at tree top level – seemed like 80 knots," said Door Gunner Arthur Whitmore.

As the first choppers arrived, an intense volley of enemy ground fire erupted.

CWO Holloway was eighth in line to drop off his ARVN assault force. Holloway and fellow pilot Warrant Officer Daniel Gressang held their chopper in position until the ARVN soldiers disembarked, while automatic weapons fire pierced the chopper's shell.

"The VC were in the trees, and I opened up with .30 caliber fire. Chief Holloway was struck in the forehead by one of a dozen rounds to the helicopter. He was barely alive and later died back at Qui Nhon," stated Whitmore.



**Air Medal**



**Soldier's Medal**

On 4 July 1963, the 81st Transportation Company, then redesignated the 119th Aviation Company, named their airstrip at Pleiku, Holloway Field in memory of the first member of their unit to be killed in action. Later they named the entire base Camp Holloway.