



AUBREY REID MAYS

(MAY 5, 1946 - MAY 23, 1969)



Marine
Private
First Class



USS Okinawa
(LPH-3)



F Company,
2nd Battalion,
26th Marines



26th Marine
Regiment



1st Marine
Division

Years of Service: 20 MAR 1968 - 23 MAY 1969

Medals & Awards:

Purple Heart

Combat Action Ribbon

Navy Unit Commendation

National Defense Service Medal

Vietnam Service Medal

Vietnam Gallantry Cross Unit Citation

Vietnam Civil Actions Unit Citation

Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal



Private First Class Aubrey Reid Mays enlisted in the United States Marine Corps on March 20, 1968. After completing boot camp at Parris Island in 1968, PFC Mays began his tour of duty on November 30, 1968, with Fox Company, 2nd Battalion, 26th Marine Regiment, as part of the 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade (9th MAB). Headquartered in Okinawa, an important staging area during the Vietnam War, the 9th MAB was designed to be a versatile and quick acting sea-based Marine Air-Ground Task Force, which combatted enemy forces and supported the Vietnamese population through civic action programs.

Aubrey Mays was born in Nelson County, to Odessiel Ware Campbell and Wallace Reid Mays Sr., a US Navy Veteran, who fought in WWII. A member of the American Legion Post 16, Wallace Mays, Sr. retired from Montague-Betts, a structural steel fabrication plant in Lynchburg. During his early childhood, Aubrey Mays lived in Massies Mill, Virginia. The Mays family attended Massies Mill Presbyterian Church, near Crabtree Falls, in Nelson County. In the early 1960s, Aubrey attended Albemarle High School. Prior to enlisting in the US Marines, he lived in Monroe and was employed at Leonard's Dunlop Tire, Co., on 12th St. in downtown Lynchburg. PFC Mays married Sandra Lee Dunning of Nelson County. Their son, Aubrey Reid Mays, Jr. was born in March of 1969, two months before his father died in Vietnam.