



227th Aviation Regiment



1st Cavalry Division

**Bruce Daniel Ibach**  
**Specialist 5/C U.S. Army**  
**2 February 1967 – 26 January 1970**

Bruce was born on 12 July 1948 in Allentown Hospital and initially lived with his parents in Lower Macungie Township at the intersection of Lower Macungie Road and Cedar Crest Boulevard. He and his family then moved to 571 Chestnut Street in Emmaus, Pennsylvania, circa 1957. Bruce attended grades 1–8 at Washington School in Emmaus, and graduated from Emmaus High School in 1967. He enlisted in the Army as a Private at Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. He went through basic training at Ft. Hood, Texas, and advanced infantry training at Fort Eustis, Virginia. He volunteered for two tours of duty in Vietnam; first from August 1967 to August 1968 and then from February 1969 to February 1970. Bruce was a Helicopter Mechanic and Door Gunner in Company C, 227th Assault Helicopter Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division during his first tour in Vietnam, and in the 120th Assault Helicopter Company during his second tour. Upon arrival in Vietnam he was first assigned to Bien Hoa and later moved north to Chu Lai and then Camp Evans just to the north of Hue, about 20 miles south of the Demilitarized Zone. His unit provided gunfire support to the infantry in numerous places around each location where he was stationed. Bruce earned the Army Commendation Medal and an Air Medal with Combat “V” for his service in Vietnam. He was discharged at Oakland, California, as a Specialist 5th Class on 26 January 1970, and subsequently served in the Army Reserves until 1973. After Bruce was discharged, he returned to Emmaus where he worked at Linden Optical Company making eyeglasses. In July 1972, Bruce moved to San Antonio, Texas, where he became an electrician, and in 1975 he married **Nancy Dowd** (born 1947) in San Antonio, where they settled. In 2001, Bruce moved to Poteet, Texas. Bruce’s parents were **John Daniel Ibach Jr.** (25 Dec 1924 – 24 Sep 1969), who served in World War II, and **Catherine Viola Hersch** (3 Jan 1929 – 22 Sep 1999).