



196th Infantry Brigade



Americal Division

Dwight Lewis Fulmer
Private First Class U.S. Army
4 August 1969 – 10 July 1970

Dwight was born on 21 June 1947 in Allentown, Pennsylvania, while his parents were living in Lower Macungie Township. He attended Macungie Elementary School in Macungie, Pennsylvania, from 1952 to 1958, and graduated from Emmaus High School in Emmaus, Pennsylvania, in 1965. He then attended Kutztown College for four years, graduating in 1969 with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in History. Dwight was drafted into the Army and inducted as a Private on 4 August 1969 in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. He received eight weeks of basic training at Fort Dix, New Jersey, and advanced infantry training at Fort Lewis, Seattle, Washington, in Light Weapons. He left for Vietnam by air, arriving in country on 8 January 1970 at Camron Bay. After a week's training there, he left for Chu Lai in Quang Tin Province, where he was assigned to Company D, 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry (Americal) Division, 196th Infantry Brigade, as a Machine Gunner. The Division had the mission of providing security for the Chu Lai Base complex. On 21 January 1970, he flew by helicopter to the Fire Support Base Center in the vicinity of Chu Lai. On the next night, after going on patrol and setting up a defensive perimeter on the top of a small hill in the area, Dwight's position came under fire. A nearby explosion temporarily knocked him unconscious and wounded him in the head. He awoke to a medic covering both eyes with gauze, and he was then evacuated by helicopter back to Fire Support Base Center where a surgeon told him he had lost one eye, but otherwise was fine. He was then flown to the 71st Evacuation Hospital at Pleiku, Vietnam, where he was operated on, then evacuated to a hospital in Yokohama, Japan. Dwight remained there until 26 February 1970, when he was flown to Valley Forge Hospital in Phoenixville, Pennsylvania. While on leave from Valley Forge, Dwight married **Kathleen Frances Repunck** (born 14 April 1949) in St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church in Bethlehem on 30 May 1970. On 10 July 1970, he was medically retired from the Army as a Private First Class at Valley Forge Hospital with a permanent disability. Dwight and Kathleen initially lived in Bethlehem, and in October 1971 he went to work as an Insurance Agent for Prudential Life Insurance Company in Bethlehem until becoming a Welfare Caseworker for the Berks County Board of Assistance in Reading, Pennsylvania, in September 1972. He then became a Letter Carrier for the U.S. Postal Service, first in Shillington in Berks County, where they lived from February 1971 to June 1974. They then moved to Mertzown, Pennsylvania, where he was a Letter Carrier in Emmaus, Pennsylvania, until September 2000. He retired at that time, and they moved to Lower Macungie Township. Dwight and Kathleen had six sons and a daughter: **Jason Scott**, **Christopher James**, **Travis Craig**, **Todd Matthew**, **Joshua Brian**, **Jonathan Lewis**, and **Jessica Catherine Myrle**. Two sons served in the Army; Jason (1989–1993) and Todd (1994–1999). Their son Christopher served in the Navy (1991–1995). Dwight's brother, **Drew Fulmer**, also served in the Navy (1977–1981). Dwight's parents were **Franklin Lewis Fulmer** (28 January 1924 – 13 May 1997), who served in the Army during World War II, and **Gladys Myrle Warmkessel** (born 29 April 1926).