



**Barton E. Wert**  
**Specialist 4 U.S. Army**  
**6 September 1966 – 5 September 1972**

Barton was born on 16 July 1947 in Allentown, Pennsylvania, while his family was living in the village of East Texas in Lower Macungie Township, Pennsylvania. When he was five years old, his family moved to Allentown where he attended Hiram Dodd Grade School, South Mountain Junior High School, and graduated from William Allen High School in 1965. While attending high school, Barton worked part time for Traub's Market and Achey's Sinclair Service Station in Allentown. After graduating from high school, he worked as a Central Equipment Installer for Western Electric, also in Allentown. Barton was drafted into the Army while living in Allentown on 6 September 1966, and was ordered to Fort Jackson, South Carolina, for basic training, followed by assignment to Aberdeen Proving Grounds in Aberdeen, Maryland, for advanced training as a Wheeled Vehicle Mechanic. Upon completion of advanced training in January 1967, he was assigned to Fort Lewis, Washington, for deployment to South Vietnam. He was assigned to the 148th Supply & Service Company as a Truck Driver and Mechanic. Barton was based at Nha Trang, and conveyed extensively throughout the central and northern parts of South Vietnam. He returned to the States and was discharged as a Specialist 4 on the 5th of September 1972 at Fort Lewis. He was awarded the National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal and Vietnam Campaign Medal. Barton returned to Allentown where he worked as a Truck Driver for Lehigh Wholesale Company from 1973 to 1978, when the company went out of business. He then attended Northampton County Community College part-time during evenings, studying Welding Technology, and graduated in 1982. He then worked at several welding jobs until settling at Paules Metal Works in Palmerton, Pennsylvania. Barton married **Lynn M. Griffith** (born 29 March 1950) in Allentown on 21 September 1971. They lived in Walnutport, Pennsylvania, from 1971 to 1989, when they moved to Lehigh, Pennsylvania. They lived in Lehigh until September 2003, when they returned to live in Allentown at the Wert Family home. Barton's parents were **James Samuel Wert** (18 December 1919 – 13 October, 1994), who served in the Army during World War II, and **Mae Pauline Decker** (born 21 May 1922). Barton's brother, **James Michael Wert**, also served in Vietnam from 1969 to 1970, and his other brother, **David Alan Wert**, served in both the Marine Corps and the Navy during the period 1973 to 1976.