

Vietnam Security Police Association

THAILAND

Nakhon Phanom RTAFB

56th SPS

Airman MORAN , EDGAR C. II

USS Mayaguez KIA list

by JIM ENOCKSON

Edgar Moran may have been a Dolphins fan, but he moved from West Virginia to Pennsylvania where he completed his Senior year High School and he loved hunting the hills in Pennsylvania. According to his Obituary he told his family he joined the Air Force to help his family, Mom and 3-4 sisters. He wanted to buy Mom a car. I heard no mention of Dad. In a letter home he also told them that he wanted to come home with a Purple Heart and a Silver Star. I wrote a letter like that one time, so I can see another guy doing that. Edgar is buried in the Military section of the Cemetery in Chartiers Pennsylvania. He was a choir member in school and was less than one year after graduating when he died in the accident. I should dig out the obit and type it into the e-mail. He got quite a write up for a country that tired of South East Asia. Mike Zak, another SP from NKP gave me the obit copies, and you might remember him, or Roger Robison. I never did find out where Roger went.

JRE

Read Articles and News:



1 - Article:
Airman Killed in Thai Crash

S. Fayette

Post Gazette Photo by ALBERT FRENCH
Mrs. Betty Moran of Morgan with her son's dog, Queenie, on the day she learned of son's death.

District Airman, 19, Killed in Thai Crash

By **WILLIAM HODIAK**
Post-Gazette Staff Writer

When the Air Force captain knocked on Mrs. Betty Moran's door at 7:30 a.m. yesterday in Morgan, South Fayette Township, she didn't want to let him in.

"I heard about the helicopter crashing in Thailand on the news. I felt if I kept him on the other side it wouldn't be true," she said with tears streaming down her face.

The captain told her that her only son, Airman Edgar C. Moran II, 19, had been killed Tuesday in the crash of a CH53 helicopter 25 miles west of Nakhon Phanom Air Base in Thailand.

Mrs. Moran had been apprehensive since the capture of the American merchant ship in Cambodia. Last Monday she received a letter from her son saying the base was expecting an enemy attack predicting that she would be getting a Silver Star and a Purple Heart soon.

Edgar Moran graduated from Chartiers Valley High School last June and then enlisted in the Air Force. One of the attractions was a promise by the Air Force that he would be sent to college, Mrs. Moran said.

With his enlistment bonus, Edgar bought a car for his family, telling Mrs. Moran, "Mommy, you're going to have things which you never had." Mrs. Moran has four



EDGAR MORAN II

daughters, Millie, 4, Sandra, 11, Charlotte, 13, and Rebecca, 17. The family lives in a housing project at 68 Morgan Road.

"He was such a clown, a really good boy. He was a deacon at the Rennerdale Presbyterian Church," Mrs. Moran said, as she patted Edgar's dog Queenie, sitting next to her on the couch. In the center of the living room was an oil portrait of her son. On the television set there was a color photo of Edgar.

"It's such a waste," Mrs. Moran said, while holding her son's last letter in her hand. "But I'm not bitter. This is what he wanted to do. I've had 18 good years with him."

2 - Post Gazette article:

District Airman, 19, Killed in Thai Crash

U. S. Copter Crash in Thailand Claims S. Fayette Twp. Airman

"I feel an emptiness and a hurt," Mrs. Betty Moran said sadly.

The South Fayette Twp. woman's only son, Airman Edgar C. Moran II, 19, is dead, one of 23 Air Force men killed when a CH53 helicopter crashed in Thailand Tuesday.

Mrs. Moran, who lives in Morgan's Project, said she knew her son was dead several hours before official notification, which came early yesterday morning.

"I heard about the crash on the 11 o'clock news and told my daughter, 'Eddie was on that, I just know it.'"

"It's such a waste, but he went willingly. He was so proud he was doing something good and so proud of that uniform."

In his last letter, Edgar told his mother to expect to re-



EDGAR C. MORAN
Helicopter crash victim.

ceive a Silver Star and Purple Heart.

"I had a letter all ready to mail to him, telling him, 'What do I want with medals? I need you.'"

"He always felt people had to be proud of him."

Edgar, the oldest of five Moran children, was graduated last June from Chartiers Valley High School, where he was president of the Future Teachers of America. He was also active in Boy Scouts and was a deacon at Rennerdale Presbyterian Church.

He was born in Washington, D.C., and moved to Western Pennsylvania several years ago.

"He fell in love with Pennsylvania," Mrs. Moran said. "He would have wanted to be buried here."

Funeral arrangements are incomplete.

3 - Article:
Fayette Twp. Airman

U.S. Copter Crash in Thailand Claims S.

Former Collier Township lad killed in May 13 Thai crash

Rennerdale

* Heartfelt sympathy is extended to the Moran family on the death of Airman Edgar Moran in Vietnam. The area was overwhelmed with shock and grief on the news of Eddie's death. He will be remembered by all for his friendly nature, and ready smile.

Airman Edgar C. Moran II's dreams of attending college will never come about as the result of a helicopter crash in Thailand last Tuesday (May 13, 1975). For Airman Moran was killed in the crash of a CH53 helicopter 25 miles west of Nakhon Phanom Air Base.

The son of Betty R. Moran of Castle Shannon, the young airman was only 19 years old. At the time of his graduation last June from Chartiers Valley High School, Mrs. Moran and her children were residents of Noblesdown road in the Walker's Mill section of Collier Township. Following graduation, Edgar enlisted in the Air Force - he was attracted by a promise that he would be sent to college, and he wanted that very much.

With his enlistment bonus, he bought a car for his family, telling his mother, "you're going to have things which you never had." When Edgar left for the service, Mrs. Moran and her four daughters (Millie, 4; Sooria, 11; Charlotte, 13; and Rebecca, 17) left Collier Township for West Virginia where the family formerly resided. "Something kept telling me to move back to Pennsylvania and so I did in February of this year," Mrs. Moran said. "I want to add that Edgar



Edgar Moran

loved Pennsylvania, its hills, hunting, etc., and she was happy to be back and so was Edgar (his letters said so).

"He was such a good boy - a deacon at the First United Presbyterian Church of Rennerdale," his mother said as she looked at the portrait of her son on the television set. His dog Queenie sat by. "It's such a waste," Mrs. Moran said. "I'm not bitter - going into the service is some-

thing he wanted to do - but I'll miss him so very much. I had 18 good years with him which is more than some people have with 25 year old sons."

The Air Force captain who broke the news to Mrs. Moran said that his body was positively identified and was at the present time on the Philippine Islands. She will be notified from California as to when he will be brought home and added that friends will be received at the Bradwell and Nirelle Funeral Home in Carnegie with interment in the soldiers' plot in Chartiers Cemetery.

"Now all I have to do is await that phone call and my boy will be coming home - but not the way we wanted him to come," Mrs. Moran said.

Bicentennial Pennsylvania 1776-1976



4 - Article: Lad Killed in May 13 Thai Crash

Former Collier Township

But so stark's you - if you're like me and most Americans who take our voting privilege as lightly. Go when we feel like it. . .



Here's a young boy - an 18-year-old is a boy to me - killed in Thailand. And less than a year ago he was a high school kid with a favorite song that started "If I could save time in a bottle. . ."

And, somehow I know that the times I was too lazy or too indifferent to wait or drive a few blocks to a polling place had something to do with Edgar Moran being in Thailand. Yeah, even those times when it was only local offices - council, school director, controller. . .

Because our national leadership - our presidents and our senators and our representatives - ultimately is based upon the foundation of local voting practices. The men and women who are elected to local offices form the pool from which eventually national leaders surface. . .

If they're all a bunch of wily opportunists seeking public office for profit or power, that's our fault. I know that most men and women running for office aren't the low characters we unthinkingly - and unjustly - brand them. But there are no goods, plenty of them - and they get into office mainly because of the laziness of nonvoters. . .

What's an 18-year-old kid - a kid who just a year ago was a soloist in the Chartiers Valley Hi School's spring program - doing in Thailand? Why is he dead now instead of here singing his song. "If I had a box just for wishes and dreams that had never come true. . . Why would the world die. . ."

Because he - whether you agree with President Ford's decision in the Cambodian

also incident or not -- was acting in our behalf. And he was one of the American servicemen who lost his sweet young life trying to save other Americans. Trying, really, to save us. . .

And with all our faults we're worth saving. And so is the American ideal of self-government--government of the people, by the people, for the people. Oh, that sounds so commonplace, I know. But nowhere and in no time has there been anything better. Nowhere . . .

I DON'T WANT to be ruled by a king and I sure don't want to have my life run by any clique of ruthless ideologists who murder, torture, terrify or imprison anybody who doesn't agree with their mind-destroying system. I want to have something to say about my life and the life of my kids and my neighbors and my world. . .

And I really do have that privilege -- and I mean privilege because most people who have inhabited this planet have never had the chance I have I can vote. . .

Even if I don't like one candidate on the ballot, I have to vote. Taking the lesser of two evils -- as I see them -- is a good moral and civic decision. Keeping good people in office or voting for someone to replace them depends upon the votes of me and those who take the trouble to go to the polls. . .

Kids live or die because of the way I vote-- or fail to vote. Kings and dictators in democratic disguise get into office because of the way I vote -- or fail to vote. Our country and our world are affected by the way I vote -- or fail to vote. . .

Like most Americans, I bear the guilt and shame of failing to vote in many elections. It's a shame that an 18-year-old kid has to die to make the guilt apparent.

5 -

Editorial

Well, He's gone now;
He didn't really say good-bye;
Just sorta waved and sighed.

Well, He stood there waiting in line;
Lookin all ready and sayin He was feelin fine;
A check around and the noddin of heads;
The last chance to justify his mind.

Then he took off;
In that South bound bird;
No complaints-Just a nervous smile;
Sorta like a see ya in a while;
Then the whining of the engines;
And nothing could be heard.

Yes, He's gone now;
The word is in;
Him and the others, not unlike brothers;
Have gone to the world of no sin.

DAMN, He's gone now;
And you'll have your time of cry;
Yet He'd say;
Take your time, the hurt will go away;
Have your cry, then start that new day.

He's close now;
Closer than He's ever been;
And his memory will always be dear;
Now the only thing to fear;
Is the pain that will present its self;
When the thought of him is near.

Well, He's gone now;
And He really didn't say good-bye;
Just sorta waved and sighed;
Taking what He knew;
And keeping it all inside.

14 May 1975
Dunk

6 -

Poem



(Photo: Edgar Moran, 3rd from Right, hand touching beret)

MORAN, EDGAR C. II
Non-Hostile Action, Thailand
May 13, 1975

AIRMAN - Air Force
19 year old Male
Born on Feb. 16, 1956
From PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA
56th SPS, NKP Thailand

Casualty was on May 13, 1975
Non Hostile, Helicopter Crash
SS Mayaguez Rescue Operation
(Cambodia),
Body was recovered
Panel 01W - Line 128



VSPA ... We Remember....

From: [Riley Pat R MSG 171 SFS/SFOA](#)]
Subject: Edgar Moran

Dear Mr. Poss,
On May 13, 2004 we placed a wreath on Airman Edgar Moran's grave. He is buried in Chartier's Cemetery in Carnegie, Pennsylvania. Sending a few pictures.
Sincerely,
Patrick Riley



Left to right: SSgt Bruce Bistarkey (171st Security Forces Squadron, PAANG), SSgt John Snow (1/110 Infantry, Paang), MSgt Patrick Riley (171st Security Forces Squadron, PAANG)



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