



366th Security Police

**K-9**

Da Nang Air Base  
Republic of Vietnam

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## Tommy Jack Baker

**Born in Alamogordo, New Mexico on Jun. 25, 1944 Departed  
on Jun. 28, 2007 and resided in Arkansas City, KS.**



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## Tommy Jack Baker

**Born in Alamogordo, New Mexico on Jun. 25, 1944 Departed on Jun. 28, 2007 and resided in Arkansas City, KS.**

**Visitation:** [Sunday, Jul. 1, 2007](#)

**Service:** [Tuesday, Jul. 3, 2007](#)

**Cemetery:** [Parker Cemetery](#)

Please click on the links above for locations, times, maps, and directions.

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Tommy Jack "Tom" Baker, 63, of Arkansas City, died Thursday (June 28, 2007) at the Robert J. Dole V.A. Medical Center of Wichita. Funeral services are scheduled for 10:00 a.m. Tuesday (July 3, 2007) at the Rindt-Erdman Funeral Home. Burial will follow in the Parker Cemetery. Visitation will be Sunday from 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Monday 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. The family will greet friends at the funeral home Sunday evening from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Tom was born June 25, 1944, in Alamogordo, New Mexico to Clifford Jack and Peggy Annette (Belflower) Baker. He was reared and educated in Corpus Christi and Bishop, Texas, graduating from Bishop High School in 1962. He later graduated from Cowley College. Tom served in the United States Air Force during the Vietnam War. He served in the Military Police and was one of the first Sentry Dog Handlers in Vietnam. Tom married Glenna Barnes on May 21, 1971 in Newkirk. The couple lived most of their married lives in Arkansas City. Tom worked as a police officer after the Vietnam war in Arkansas City, served as Chief of Police at Kingman, Kansas, and then returned to the Arkansas City Police Department to finish his law enforcement career. He later worked in various construction fields ending with operating his own heating and cooling company.

Tom is survived by his wife Glenna of the home; two sons T.J. and his wife Diana Baker, Tyson Baker; two daughters Tonya Baker, Terice and her husband Greg Watts; his mother Peggy Good all of Arkansas City; one brother Billy Ray and his wife Pat Baker of Houston, Texas; mother-in-law Opal Barnes; six grandchildren Cade, Kyler, Kylie, Devin, Dylan and Hannah; and many nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his father and father-in-law Clyde Barnes.

In lieu of the flowers the family asks for assistance with final expenses. Contributions may be made through the funeral home.

Arrangements are being made through the Rindt-Erdman Funeral Home of Arkansas City. Online condolences may be made at [www.rindt-erdman.com](http://www.rindt-erdman.com)

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Guestbook for Tommy Jack Baker

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*My thoughts and prayers are with the family. God Bless you all.*

Ray Rash

Jul 4, 2007

Tyler, TX

*To the family of Tom, may your love for Tom grow knowing he served his country with pride. I did not know of Tom but shared his beliefs over and over. May God Bless you all. Ron "troll" Arthur VSPA LM 109*

Ron Arthur

Jul 4, 2007

Chilhowee, MO

*God Bless Tommy and his family. Tommy is now 10-8 with the Lord and continuing his watch over us.*

gus anderson

Jul 4, 2007

rochester, MN

*REST IN PEACE BROTHER, J.R. BALDERAS CRB, NT,NTI, DN 68-70*

JOHN R. BALDERAS

Jul 3, 2007

STOCKTON, CA

*TJ and Family,*

*I am truly sorry to hear about your loss. I know how hard these next few moments of your lives will be and pray that all of you stay strong and remember all the good times with your father. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.*

Stephanie (Foust) Widener

Jul 3, 2007

Arkansas City, KS

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*Glenna, T.J., Tonya, Terice, and Tyson,*

*Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you. Tom was a wonderful person and he will be missed. Through the years, Tom has made Mark and I both feel like we have always been family. All of you have been accepting and this means more to us than you will ever know. Tom always had something to say, you never knew what it was going to be until he said it. " He always kept you on your toes." We love all of you dearly.*

*Love you,*

*Mark, Connie, Carrie, Jennifer and Chance Barnes*

Mark and Connie Barnes

Jul 3, 2007

Arkansas City, KS

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*Tom is now standing tall in the guardmount in the sky, rest in peace.*

Juan Alfonso

Jul 3, 2007

Hopewell Jct., NY

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*Sorry to hear about your loss . Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time.*

Bill and Linda Jordan

Jul 3, 2007

Arkansas City, KS

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*Sorry to hear of TOM'S passing'GOd needed another Dog Handler to walk the wire in Heaven.Hope for the best GOD BLESS.Andy Latham 8th SPS K-9 Ubon Thailand 1968-69.*

Andy Latham ailand 8th SPS,K-9

Jul 3, 2007

*And Now We Say Goodbye*

*Great sadness fills our hearts today  
As pipes and drums, in slow march play.  
A comrade's fallen by the way,  
And now we say goodbye.*

*This hero to the very end  
Was more than just a casual friend,  
Who would a stranger's life defend,  
And now we say goodbye*

*But we shall cherish, all our days,  
The character this life portrayed  
With sacrifice so freely made,  
And now we say goodbye.*

*The hand salute, o'er Stars and Stripes,  
And distant skirl of highland pipes,  
Bid last farewell with hero's rights,  
And now we say goodbye.*

*While here on Earth, you gave your best.  
Now in the Master's arms you rest.  
For having known you, we are blessed.  
And now we say goodbye.*

*Howard Garrison Yates  
VSPA*

Howard Yates  
Jul 3, 2007  
Orlando, FL

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*My prayers go out to all the family and friends.*

*Claude Hebert  
LM #34 VSPA  
366th Security Police  
DaNang 67-68*

Claude Hebert  
Jul 3, 2007  
Schriever, LA

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*To the Family of Tom Baker:*

*Dear Glenna and family,*

*I would like to express my sympathy with the passing of your beloved Tom.*

*I am so very sorry to learn of your loss, via reading it on the internet and the funeral home website . Glenna, the last time I spoke with you and your mom, at Dillon's in Derby, you told me he was getting along so well. Consequently; this has come as a real shock to me. Please accept my deepest sympathy. I thought a lot of Tom, he was just a super-nice guy. I'm very glad that I have known him all these years, and always considered him a good friend. I have read many of the kind words that have been written about him in this guestbook. I know there are many who share your loss and mourn with you.*

*I would like to share the following readings, which I think expresses just how you must all feel at this moment.*

*HE ONLY TAKES THE BEST*

*God saw he was getting tired,  
And a cure was not to be.  
So he put His arms around him  
And whispered "Come with me".*

*With tearful eyes we watched  
Him suffer and fade away.  
Although we couldn't bear to lose him,  
We could not bid him stay.*

*A golden heart stopped beating,  
Hard working hands laid to rest,  
God broke our hearts to prove to us,  
He only takes the best.*

*And.....*

*I WANT TO GO HOME*

*I want to go home and be at rest.  
Freed from pain, heartaches,  
Misery and stress.  
I want to see loved ones  
That are no longer here.*

*They've gone on before me,  
And I loved them so dear.*

*I want to go home  
To rejoice and sing,  
Praising my Savior  
And soon coming King.  
Many years I've journeyed  
Upon this land.  
Trying to do God's will,  
And loving my fellow man.*

*My lease is up,  
I have to move away,  
This old building is leaking,  
And I cannot stay.  
I want to see Jesus,  
The rapture to keep,  
I want to rise first,  
So now I must sleep.*

*Although my personal circumstances regarding some health issues  
prevent me from being with you today, please know that you are in my  
thoughts and in my prayers.*

*I know you have many memories of happier and healthier days, always  
remember those precious memories, and stay close to one another and  
to God.*

*Peace be with all of you, and God Bless.*

*Sincerely,  
Margaret*

Margaret Olvera-Hearne

Jul 3, 2007

Arkansas City,, KS

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*Mrs Glenna Baker and family, you have my deepest condolences on  
Tom's passing away. I pray the Good Lord will console you Glenna and  
your family as well as Tom's friends in your grief. Tom was a courageous  
man in his service to his fellow man in both his military and civilian life. I  
am sure he got just as big a "Welcome Home" from the Good Lord as he  
did from his brothers in the Vietnam Security Police Assn.*

*Newell M. Swartz*

*Phu Cat and Phan Rang Vietnam 1966*

*VSPA Life Member 262*



Newell M. Swartz

Jul 3, 2007

Phoenix, AZ

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*T.J. & family: So sorry to hear of your loss. Hold on to your memories.  
Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time.*

Jennifer (Rickords) Mars

Jul 2, 2007

Arkansas City, KS

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*Glenna ,*

*My heart goes out to you and the kids in the loss of one fine man . I'll  
always remember Tom's smiling face and all the kindness shown to me .  
I know you will miss him so very much ,but remember you are not alone  
as many others will miss him also . May you find peace knowing he has .  
Bless you all !*

*Your longtime friend , Janey*

Janey Fritchey

Jul 2, 2007

Newkirk, OK

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*Terice, TJ and entire Baker family,*

*We are so sorry to hear of your loss. Please let us know if there is  
anything at all that we can do for you. We all know that he is probably up  
there in heaven laughing and having a good ol' time catching up with old  
friends and family. Now you all have a heckuva guardian angel watching  
over you. He will surely be missed by all.*

Justin and Leslie Nulik

Jul 2, 2007

Arkansas City, KS

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*Dear Glenna,*

*Thoughts and prayers are with you and your family,*

*My best,*

*Lyn*

Lyn Gaudino Meyer

Jul 2, 2007

Arkansas City, KS

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*Glenna & Family;*

*Sorry for your loss. You are in my thoughts and prayers.*

*My Sincerest Sympathy.*

Sandy Casebolt

Jul 2, 2007

Winfield, KS

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*Glenna and Family,*

*We were very sorry to hear of Tom's passing. Please know that we are keeping your family in our thoughts during this difficult time.*

Kelly and Sharon Borrer

Jul 2, 2007

Arkansas City, KS

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*Terice & family,*

*May you find comfort in the words expressed by so many friends and family during this difficult time. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.*

*God bless,  
Brent, Amy, Allison, & Braydon Pinion*

Amy Pinion

Jul 2, 2007

Arkansas City, KS

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*Sorry for your lost. You are in our prayer's. Love Carol Patteron.*

Carol Patterson

Jul 2, 2007

Mountain Home, AR

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*Dear Glenna and Family-*

*I was so very sorry to hear of Tom's passing. YOU are all in my thoughts and prayers.*

*I remember when Tom would come into Harvey's and help you pick out something, or come in at Christmas for you- I always enjoyed it...He was a really funny guy, with a dry sense of humor!!!*

*Tom will be missed by many, but just know he is in the presence of our Lord, Jesus, and his new walk has just begun, with him.*

*God Bless you all,*

*Leslie ^i^ <><*

Leslie Sherman

Jul 2, 2007

Arkansas City, KS USA

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*To the Baker Family,*

*A great man has went to a greater place with some very special company. I hope you find solace in that he is no longer in pain.*

*T.J. & Diane,*

*The pain eases but the memories remain....it's the little things that you'll cling to!!*

*You are all in our thoughts*

Jeff & Sheri Green

Jul 2, 2007

Arkansas Ciy, KS

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*To TJ & Diana and the Baker Family,*

*I'm sorry for your loss. You are all in my prayers.*

Dawn (Morris) Burns

Jul 2, 2007

Homestead, FL

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*I am sorry to learn of Tom passing. He was one of the finest police officers I ever served with as well as being one of the finest persons I ever had the pleasure of knowing. We watched many OU/ Texas games together and enjoyed a great rivalry. I know all is well with him now*

Lloyd Pappan

Jul 2, 2007

Wichita, KS

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*It is very hard for all of us surviving Vietnam Security Policemen to know we have lost another brother from the ravages of that war so long ago. While I did not know Tom personally he will always be a brother and as such will never be forgotten. Rest in eternal peace brother!*

Bill Marshall  
Jul 2, 2007  
Dana Point, CA

*I was so sorry to hear of Tom's passing. Please know that Melanie and I will be thinking of you in days to come. I am sorry that I won't be able to attend his services. If I can be of assistance, remember that we are friends and that you can call on me at any time. Julie and Melanie Kent*

Julie Kent  
Jul 2, 2007  
Galesburg, KS

*TJ & The Baker Family - So sorry to hear about your father. My thoughts are with you. May your memories get you through the difficult times.*

Cyndy (Mulhern) Jackson  
Jul 2, 2007  
Lee's Summit, MO

*We will all miss Tom very much. Though we will not be there in person, are thoughts are with you. We love you and miss you all.*

Richard & Karla Tournier

Jul 2, 2007  
Independence, IA

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*We are so sorry for your loss. Your family is in our thoughts and prayers. Stay strong and lean on each other, you are such a wonderful family. God Bless.*

Mike and Crystal Merz  
Jul 2, 2007  
Winfield, KS

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*RON(MONK)POPE  
377TH SPS  
TAN SON NHUT AIR BASE  
VSPA LM 158*

RON(MONK)POPE  
Jul 2, 2007  
ashland, AL

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*02 July 2007*

*My heartfelt condolences for another Vietnam Security Police Association Brother who served his country with honor. His family can be proud of his service to our contry and in the high regard in which Tom Baker was held in the hearts of his fellow VSPA members.*

*Jim Durham, Life Member 267  
Vietnam Security Police Assn  
Burns, Tennessee 37029*

Jim Durham  
Jul 1, 2007  
Burns, TN

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*To the baker family:  
I'm very sad to hear of the passing of your husband and father. I know this is a difficult time, but know he is in a better place. Believe it or not, the greif will fade but the memory remains.*

Phil Goldsmith  
Jul 1, 2007  
Winfield, KS

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*Glenna and family,*

*You all are in our thoughts and prayers. May Tom rest in peace now and always be in your hearts.*

*With deepest sympathy.....Crysta, Mike, Sydney, Jacey & Jordan Snow*

Crysta Snow

Jul 1, 2007

Wichita, KS

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*It is a sad day when Vietnam Vets lose a Brother. I never met Tom personally but I followed his last few weeks through the Vietnam Security Police Association Bulletin Board. In those few short weeks, he taught many of us lessons about the important things in life-friends and family. In his final days, he displayed the same courage he showed on that dark night 40 years ago at Danang Air Base, Vietnam, when he helped thwart an enemy attack. Tom Baker was a giant of a man because he needed a large body to house his big heart. We love you, Tommy.*

*Gary and "JJ" Jones  
Ladson, SC*

Gary Jones

Jul 1, 2007

Ladson, SC

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*To the Family and Friends of Tommy,*

*Even though I had never met Tommy, Don Poss opened up a door for all of us at VSPA to learn what a true HERO and family man he was. I was stationed at the same base as Tommy only at different times and I was also raised in Wellington, KS but left to join the Air Force before you settled in Ark City. We were so close but so far away. I will never ever forget my phone call to Tommy 3 weeks ago. May the good Lord watch over all of you and give you the strength to get by during this difficult time. I will be honored to shake your hand someday Tommy.*

*Roger Lansden  
366th SPS  
DaNang AB/69/70  
VSPA LM #269*

Roger Lansden

Jul 1, 2007

Portland, OR

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*I never met or spoke to Tom, but he was my Brother. As US Air Force Security Police sentry dog handlers in the Vietnam War, we shared things few can understand. I'm sorry I'll have to wait for my own passing to shake his hand and tell him "Welcome Home." To all his friends and family - I'm deeply sorry for your loss. God bless you, and may you always remember Tom's strength, character and willingness to stand up for his country when called.*

*Phil*

Phil Carroll

Jul 1, 2007

Portland, OR

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*I personally didn't know Tommy, but over the last several weeks all of us at VSPA followed the e-mails posted on our bulletin board. From Don Poss we learned that Tommy was a great sky cop and he was a HERO along with his K-9 partner breaking up an attack before the VC could mount it against his brothers at Danang. No words that any of us will express here will ever change the loss you have suffered, but know in your hearts that Tommy will never be forgotten by the men he saved, by his teammates, or by anyone of us who served as an Air Policeman, Security Policeman, or as an Augmentee Security Policeman. I too suffer from Agent Orange related Diabetes, and because of his plea that we take better care of ourselves and our Diabetes, I am now doing a better job of monitoring my surgar levels. This man who was suffering himself with great difficulty the pass few weeks still put his concerns for his brothers ahead of his own problems, What class this man had. I am so happy that Don was able to put Tommy in touch with so many of his brother officers from the Air Force whether he had served with them or not, we are all brothers and we take care of our own. It is comforting to know your brothers are there for you and that he was able to talk to so many before he passed to the waiting arms of our Lord Jesus Christ is great. I am sure that he heard the words Well Done My Son. May God Bless and Care for you all through this most difficult time, and please know that you and your family will always be in our prayers Tommy. Terry & Ellie Sasek Binh-Thuy AB 68-69*

Terry Sasek

Jul 1, 2007

Clinton Township, MI

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*To the Baker family, Glenna, Peggy, T.J., and Tonia:*

*There really are no words to express the sadness for Tom's passing. A good man, a great friend who loved his country and family.*

*Tom, there are no words. I will not forget your smile for everyone, and your quick humor. May God give you an extra hug from us all.*

*Don Poss,  
Da Nang, Vietnam  
K9 Blackie x129*

Don Poss  
Jul 1, 2007  
Hemet, CA

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*Tom, may you rest in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ...thank you for serving our great nation and my God be with you and your family. Thanks for being the warrior you were...*

*Monk*

RON(MONK)POPE  
Jul 1, 2007  
ashland, AL

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*On behalf of the Vietnam Security Police Association (VSPA), our condolences and prayers go out to the Baker family on the passing away of Tommy. We know that Tommy is now on patrol with his K-9 in heaven, doing what he loved to do as a Sky Cop.*

Vietnam Security Police Association (VSPA)  
Jul 1, 2007  
United State of America

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*On behalf of the members of the Oklahoma Heartland Chapter of the Air Force Security Police Association (AFSPA), our condolences and prayers go out to the Baker family on the passing away of Tommy. Know that he is now in heaven standing guardmount with many other Sky Cops that have proceeded him.*

Oklahoma Heartland Chapter of the AFSPA  
Jul 1, 2007  
Del City, OK

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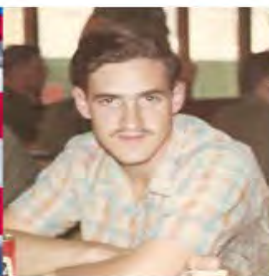


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