



Charles Shyab

Served in Vietnam, *June 1967 to April 1969*

Charles Shyab was drafted into the U.S. Army in June 1967. He was sent to Fort Sam Houston, Texas, where he trained as a field medic. After 18 weeks of basic and advanced individual training, he was sent to Vietnam, serving with the 4th Infantry Division, 1/22 Infantry, Charlie Company. The 4th Division was stationed in the Central Highlands going against the North Viet Nam Regular Army (NVRA) to do search and destroy missions near the Ho Chi Min trail.

On February 2nd, 1968, Charlie Company was flown into the city of Kontum during the TET Offensive to give protection to the city as it was under attack. The unit was under attack as they moved up to support the Special Forces compound north of the airport. On the February 5th, they were attacked while on patrol west of the city and surrounded by an NVRA unit. They lost 8 men with 12 wounded before tanks and planes pushed back the enemy. On April 25, Charlie Company was 10 kilometers from the Cambodian border when their Battalion was attacked by the NVRA. After a 4 day engagement, they lost 30 men as they attempted to dislodge them from Chu Moor Mountain. NVRA used the noise of the planes to mortar them as they were attacking the hill. As Shyab was exiting his bunker a mortar shell exploded injuring my arms and legs.

When Shyab returned to the states he was assigned to DeWitt Army Hospital at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, where he served in the emergency room. After being honorably discharged, he completed his Bachelor's in Education at Columbia Union College and Washington Adventist University. He had a career in education until 2008.

Shyab resided in Takoma Park, Maryland from 1962 to 1968. He received a Bronze Star from U.S. Senator Barbara Mikulski in 2012.