



Charlie Battery 3rd Missile Battalion 71st Artillery

Stockheim ♥ Haberschlacht ♥ Niederhofen ♥ Kleingartach ♥ Hardheim

WINNING THE PEACE WITH PEACE THROUGH
VIGILANCE • STRENGTH • HONOR • RESOLVE

Tribute to Captain Eugene P. Wroten



JULY 25 ·1923 - OCTOBER 10 ·1961

Charlie Battery Commanding Officer 1960 - 1961

For those who served with Captain Eugene P. Wroten news that he was killed was a terrible blow, and to add insult to injury, how he died was even more painfully difficult to reconcile.

Captain Wroten was not only a fine commander, he was a really great person. From private to officer, he treated everyone with respect no matter what your rank was. He would show interest in what one was doing and one could tell that the interest was real and genuine.

His family also took his death very hard, in fact family members still seek out those who knew him in order to know the man. We hope this tribute, in it's small way, helps them in their quest, knowing what esteem the men in his command had for him.

It was an honor to have served with Captain Wroten, but it was even more of an honor to know the man.



Last Copter Victims Named

HEIDELBERG (S&S) — The Army has identified all six of the soldiers killed Tuesday afternoon when their helicopter crashed and burned near Hohenfels.

Pilot of the ill-fated crash was 1st Lt. Karl W. Seidl, of Williamsville, NY, whose wife Barbara E. Seidl resided with him at Mainz.

The Copilot was identified as CWO Joseph A. Steffanel of Pottstown, PA, whose wife Mary Ann T. Steffanel, also resided with him at Mainz.

Crew Chief on the mission was Sgt. Gerald D Gooch, of Purdin, Mo., whose wife Hildegard I. Gooch, lives at Purdin. All three were members of the 91st Transportation Co.

A fourth victim was identified as Captain Eugene P. Wroten, S4 of the 10th Arty Gp, whose wife Louise Elizabeth Wroten, live with him at Munich.

Earlier the Army said Brig Gen Henry M. Spengler CG of the 32nd Air Defense Brig, and Col Everett D. Light, CO of the 10th Air Defense Grp has been killed in the crash.

October 10, 1961

Born December



Captain Eugene P. Wroten

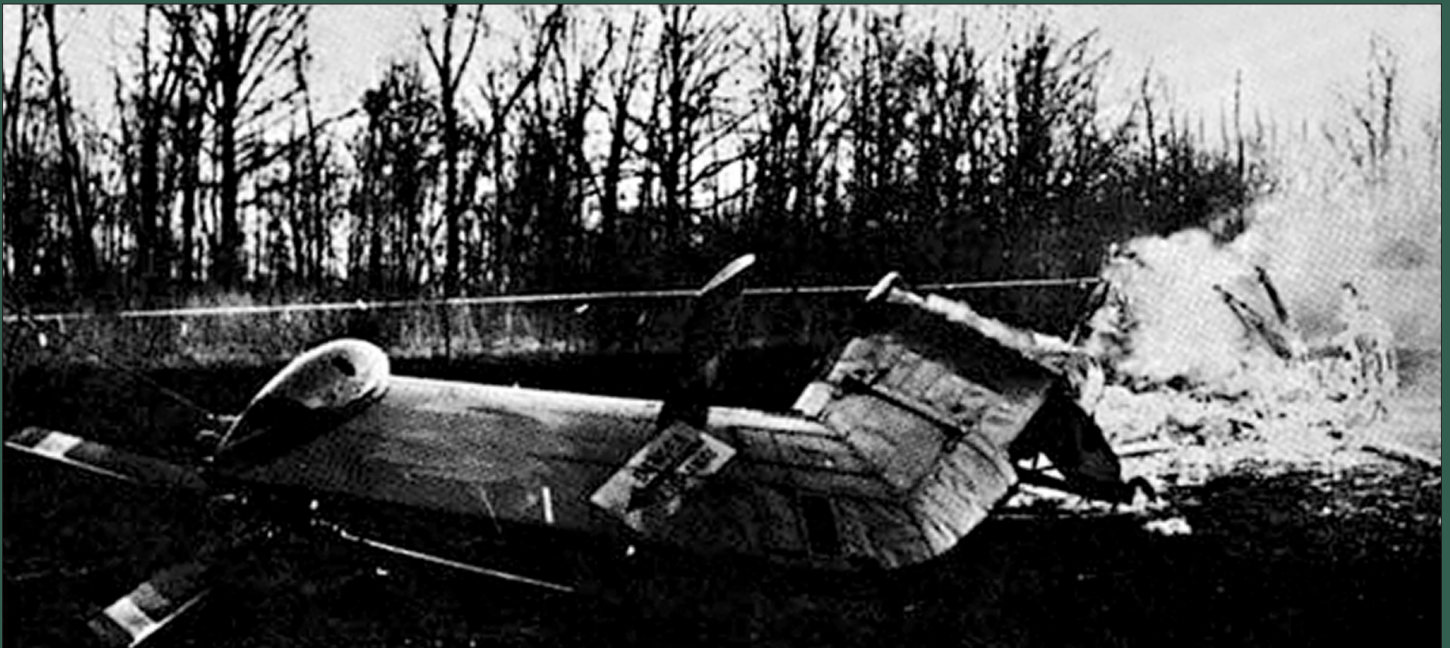
Born July 25, 1923—Died Oct. 10, 1961

Captain Eugene P. Wroten, born July 25, 1923, in Lawton, Oklahoma, attended the University of Oklahoma, the University of Missouri, and completed the Infantry School at Ft Benning, Georgia, in 1951.

Some of Capt Wroten's former duty assignments were: Platoon Leader, Korea, 1951-1952; Battery Commander, Kleingartack, March 1960 to April 1961. His last assignment was Assistant S-3, 10th Arty Gp, Munich.

The Capt was awarded the Combat Infantryman's Badge, Marksmanship Badge with Missile Bar, Commendation Ribbon with Metal Pendant, Korean Service Medal and the United Nations Service Medal (Korean).

He is survived by his wife Louise; two children: Cheryl and Jenks; and his father, Jennings W. Wroten; of Lawton.



The H-34 Helicopter exploded and crashed 23 mi from Parsberg while on battle maneuvers. The Yellow blade came loose in flight and struck the fuselage near the upper left pylon causing progressive disintegration of the aircraft. Brig. Gen. Spengler was the commander of the 32nd Air Defense Brigade, and Col. Light was the commander of the 10th Air Defense Group.



— Captain Eugene P. Wroten with P.F.C Robert Hamilton of the IFC —