

NAVY CROSS



WARREN A. WORK, JR.

HM3, U. S. Navy

Company F, 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines, 3rd Marine Division (Rein)

Quang Nam Province, Republic of Vietnam, 8 April 1967

Hometown: Tulsa, OK

Citation:

The President of the United States of America takes pleasure in presenting the Navy Cross to Hospitalman Third Class Warren A. Work, Jr. (NSN: 9158408), United States Navy, for extraordinary heroism on 8 April 1967 while serving as a Corpsman with Company F, Second Battalion, Fourth Marines, THIRD Marine Division (Reinforced), Fleet Marine Force, in connection with combat operations against insurgent communist (Viet Cong) forces in the Republic of Vietnam. While on a security patrol in Quang Nam Province, Petty Officer Work's reinforced squad came under intense small-arms fire and grenade attack from a numerically superior enemy force. With his squad pinned down, and the machine gunner hit during the initial burst of fire, Petty Officer Work rushed across an exposed area to render medical assistance to the fallen Marine. As he was approaching, he observed two enemy soldiers firing their weapons as they maneuvered toward the wounded machine gunner. Aware of the extreme danger to his patient, Petty Officer Work directed fire at the enemy soldiers and killed them before treating and comforting the wounded man. After encouraging and aiding the mounting number of casualties, he found that one of the injured was too seriously wounded to move. Petty Officer Work administered first aid to the Marine and hid him in the dense underbrush to await later evacuation. While the enemy was regrouping for another attack, Petty Officer Work, single-handedly assisted his seriously wounded patrol leader to the security of the platoon's perimeter, solacing him and caring for his wounds. By his steadfast determination and deep compassion for his comrades, Petty Officer Work was instrumental in saving several Marine lives. His extraordinary courage, bold initiative, and inspiring devotion to duty in the face of enemy fire were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.