

FALLON, PATRICK MARTIN

Name: Patrick Martin Fallon
Rank/Branch: O6/US Aif Force
Unit: Vice Commander, 56th Special Operations Wing, Nakhon Phanom RAFB
Thailand
Date of Birth: 12 November 1921
Home City of Record: Pittsburgh PA (family in GA)
Date of Loss: 04 July 1969
Country of Loss: Laos
Loss Coordinates: 191700N 1030600E (UG004331)
Status (in 1973): Missing In Action
Category: 2
Acft/Vehicle/Ground: A1H
Refno: 1463
Other Personnel In Incident: (none missing)

Source: Compiled from one or more of the following: raw data from U.S. Government agency sources, correspondence with POW/MIA families, published sources, interviews. Updated by the P.O.W. NETWORK in 1998.

REMARKS:

SYNOPSIS: Patrick Fallon was born in Turtle Creek, Pennsylvania Novemb 1921. He attended West Point, but dropped out in 1944 to serve in Worl II. In Korea, he flew 125 combat missions, and as a forward air contro parachuted behind enemy lines. He came home with a chest full of medal

In 1968, Colonel Fallon elected to go to Vietnam, and departed for Nak Phanom, Thailand in September 1969, to assume the position of Vice Com of the 56th Special Operations Wing. His wife and two daughters waited Florida for his return.

On July 4, 1969, Fallon and another A1 pilot were ordered to check out activity near the town of Xiangkhoang at the edge of the Plain of Jars Northern Laos. The flight was led by Col. Fallon, call sign Firefly 26 wingman, Firefly 27. Fallon took his plane down low to observe the Pat Lao positions, circled and came in for another pass. His plane was hit enemy fire at 200 feet, and Fallon bailed out.

Fallon reached the ground safely between two 4500 foot ridges. Pathet troops and machine gun emplacements were on both ridges. Fallon's wing called for assistance and rescue teams immediately. Firefly 27 was hit continued to lay protective fire until he was forced to leave the area subsequently made a crash landing in Thailand. Fallon maintained radio contact with the planes above him, but they were unable to rescue him because of the enemy presence. His last transmission advised them, "Pu all around me, I'm hit".

When the Air Force came to Mrs. Fallon's door to inform her that her h

had been shot down, she was packed and ready to meet Pat on leave in H. When his personal effects were shipped home, she discovered he had flown over 100 combat missions from NKP, received a Purple Heart and a Distinguished Flying Cross. He had never told her.

Through the years, reports have surfaced concerning Colonel Fallon as prisoner of war in Laos. Mrs. Fallon has never given up her search for information on her husband's fate. He is one of nearly 600 Americans in the "secret war" in Laos. When the U.S. signed peace agreements, Laos was not included and no American prisoners held by the Lao were released.

Although the U.S. Government has received nearly 10,000 reports concerning Americans still missing in Southeast Asia, convincing many authorities that hundreds are still alive, the U.S. has been unable to find a way to free those men captured in Laos. One of them could be Colonel Patrick Fallon. It's time our men came home.

Name: Steve Whitton

Website:

Referred by: Just Surf'd On In

From:

Time: 1999-02-15 22:32:56

Comments: Can anybody provide details about a Skyraider pilot by the name of Fallon (FireFly 27). I would like to pass this onto his surviving family members. It was July 4, 1969, and Fallon was flying low over Laos' hot, steamy Plain of Jars. Suddenly, troops peppered his A-1 Skyraider with gunfire, sending his plane plunging toward the thick jungle below. He bailed out, tumbling rapidly into the tall grass of a 4,500-foot ravine. As quickly as he landed, enemy troops hiding on the ridges above began to descend into the valley in search of their prey. Rattled, but safe, Fallon signaled his wingman - 'Firefly 27' - by radio that he was alive. For the complete story, click: <http://tribune-review.com/features/nmia526.html>

Vietnam War Aircraft Losses

[illegible]



PATRICK MARTIN FALLON

He Is My Hero

He didn't run . . .

He didn't protest . . .

He stood as a great warrior . . .



Fallen Brother

Painting by: Diane Stanley

Name: PATRICK MARTIN FALLON

Rank/Branch: 06/US Air Force

Unit: Vice Commander, 56th Special Operations Wing, Nakhon Phanom
RAFB, Thailand

Date Of Birth: 12 November 1921

Home City of Record: Pittsburgh PA (family in GA)

Date of Loss: 04 July 1969

Country of Loss: Laos

Loss Coordinates: 191700N 1030600E (UG004331)

Status (in 1973): Missing In Action

Category: 2

Aircraft/Vehicle/Ground: A1H

Other Personnel in Incident: (none missing)

SYNOPSIS: Patrick Fallon was born in Turtle Creek, Pennsylvania, November 12, 1921. He attended West Point, but dropped out in 1944 to serve in World War II. In Korea, he flew 125 combat missions, and as a forward air controller, parachuted behind enemy lines. He came home with a chest full of medals.

In 1968, Colonel Fallon elected to go to Vietnam, and departed for Nakhon Phanom, Thailand in September, 1968, to assume the position of Vice Commander of the 56th Special Operations Wing. His wife and two daughters waited in Florida for his return.

On July 4, 1969, Fallon and another A1 pilot were ordered to check out

enemy activity near the town of Xiangkhoang at the edge of the Plain of Jars in Northern Laos. The flight was led by Colonel Fallon, call sign Firefly 26, his wingman, Firefly 27. Fallon took his plane down low to observe the Pathet Laos positions, circled and came in for another pass. His plane was hit by enemy fire at 200 feet, and Fallon bailed out.

Fallon reached the ground safely between two 4500 foot ridges. Pathet Laos troops and machine gun emplacements were on both ridges. Fallon's wingman called for assistance and rescue teams immediately. Firefly 27 was hit, but continued to lay protective fire until he was forced to leave the area. He subsequently made a crash landing in Thailand. Fallon maintained radio contact with the planes above him, but they were unable to rescue him because of the enemy presence. His last transmission advised the, "Put it all around me, I'm hit".

When the Air Force came to Mrs. Fallon's door to inform her that her husband had been shot down, she was packed and ready to meet Pat on leave in Hawaii. When his personal effects were shipped home, she discovered he had flown over 100 combat missions from NKP, received a Purple Heart and a Distinguished Flying Cross. He had never told her.

Through the years, reports have surfaced concerning Colonel Fallon as a prisoner of war in Laos. Mrs. Fallon has never given up her search for information on her husband's fate. He is one of nearly 600 Americans lost in the "secret war" in Laos. When the US signed peace agreements, Laos was not included and no American prisoners held by the Laos were released.

Although the US Government has received nearly 10,000 reports concerning Americans still missing in Southeast Asia, convincing many authorities that hundreds are still alive, the US has been unable to find a way to free those men captured in Laos. One of them could be Colonel Patrick Fallon. It's time our men came home.