

An HH-53C from the 40th ARRS, crewed by USCG Lt. Jack K. Stice (P), unkn (CP), unkn (FE) and unkn (PJ), rescued the crew of an 8 TFW (Ubon) F-4D (Call sign "Wolf 06"), Maj. Jerry Cox and Capt. Wade A. Hubbard, after they ejected from their AAA damaged aircraft northwest of Kratie, Cambodia. 

Citation: "Vietnam Air Losses" by Chris Hobson & JRCC Save Form & "PJ's in Vietnam" by Robert L. LaPointe & JRCC Save Form 

25May73

USAF A-7D Corsair II s.n. 70-0945 from the 354th Tactical Fighter Wing (Advanced) Korat RTAFB, flown by Capt Jeremiah F. Costello was on a mission in Cambodia when it was hit by AAA fire and crashed 4 miles northeast of Siem Reap, north of Tonle Sap Lake. Capt Costello was fatally injured in the incident. His remains were recovered by a 40th ARRS (NKP) HH-53C Jolly Green Giant on the same day.

Costello transferred from Davis-Monthan AFB, AZ (along with Myrtle Beach AFB, SC A-7Ds) to Korat RTAFB in operation Constant Guard VI. From Korat, the 354th Tactical Fighter Wing (Advanced) interdicted lines of communication (LOCs) to halt the flow of North Vietnamese supplies to enemy units in South Vietnam, provided close air support for allied ground troops, and escorted surface ship convoys up the Mekong River to Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

In November 1972, the 354th took over the Combat Search and Rescue role formerly assigned to the A-1 "Sandy" aircraft, and during the Linebacker II campaign assisted in 22 rescues of downed airmen, while simultaneously flying over 4,000 combat sorties. The wing earned the Presidential Unit Citation for its Vietnam War service from September 1972 through January 1973.

Costello was on the last mission of his fourth SEA combat tours. He was awarded the Silver Star, the Distinguished Flying Cross, Purple Heart and numerous Air Medals as a Sandy for service that included two search & rescue missions for downed airmen in North Vietnam.

JEREMIAH FREDERICK COSTELLO

is honored on Panel 1W, Line 117 of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.