

King High Remembers

Christian Byrd

Period 3

Veteran: Bruce Mazeika

Served 1966-1969

Any war effort is made up of two essential components the fighters and the supporters, both having a powerful and effective role in any war. The job of the fighters is to deal with physical defense and offense against the enemy, this is shown in today's age by the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps. Unfortunately none of these would be fully functional without the help of their support roles in each military branch. Without the help of the supporters in a war effort there would be no one to make the weapons, make sure there's communication between the forces, and there would be no one to help pay for all the resources the military uses during the war effort. The hero Bruce Mazeika played a supportive role in the Vietnam War, and through his efforts he will forever be remembered.

One of the roles a supportive hero can play is making sure there's communication between the fighters risking their lives on the battlefield. Mazeika is the person that made sure the soldiers weren't completely blind within the jungle terrains that they have never encountered before. During the war in crucial moments when communicating was essential to a battle it was the work of Mazeika and other soldiers at the radar sites that let the warriors of the U.S. communicate between each other when they were miles apart and when they needed to know their surroundings in order to survive.

Mazeika time in service had its ups and downs, when he first joined into the Marine Corps starting his time in the service, he was first assigned to be a instructor for working with radars for people that were possibly going to be based in Radar Sites. Unfortunately since he was late to attend the class he was suppose to instruct he was shipped off to Vietnam, the consequences might of been overboard but Mazeika dealt with the consequences of his actions and followed what he was ordered to do. Fortunately his time in Vietnam was not spent all in physical combat. Mazeika was based in the Monkey Mountain near Da Hang not far from a nearby village or from the war zone that held combat of American and Vietnam troops within. From his base he worked on a Radar Site where he supported flight following to fighter and transport. While their the most danger he was in during Vietnam was when he had to defend the radar site from a nearby wildfire, fortunately Mazeika and his fellow soldiers risked their their lives keeping the fire tamed and away from the base until it eventually died out.

The three years of service Bruce Mazeika spent in the Marine Corps were eventful. He went from being a radar instructor to being shipped out to be a officer in a war zone. He was sent out to a dangerous and hostile area that he was not prepared for but he remained strong and followed his commanders orders like a true soldier. He may have not fought in actual combat

but he still risked his life in order to serve and follow the orders of his higher-ups. The very fact that Mazeika was willing to risk his life for his country and the millions of people he didn't know that lived in it is enough to earn the title of hero and true soldier of the powerful U.S. and strong Marine Corps.