Sergeant Thomas Castillo

1944 – 1969 KIA

Service #565609676

United States Army – Vietnam

Thomas Castillo was born on April 3, 1944 in Shamrock, Texas. His parents and numerous siblings relocated to Santa Maria in 1950. Thomas enlisted in the U.S. Army and began his tour on January 6, 1969. He was promoted to Sergeant and his specialty was Light Weapons Infantry in the 173rd Airborne Brigade, 4th Battalion, 503rd Infantry, B Company. He died through hostile action by small arms fire on August 1, 1969 in South Vietnam, Binh Dinh Province. He was laid to rest in the Santa Maria Cemetery along with his brother Ishmael.

Decorations and Awards:

- Purple Heart
- Combat Infantryman Badge
- Marksmanship Badge
- Parachutist Badge
- National Defense Service Medal
- Vietnam Campaign Medal
- Vietnam Service Medal
- Army Presidential Unit Citation
- Vietnam Gallantry Cross

Thomas is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. with his name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 20w, Line 83.