

Arlington Youth Is County's First Casualty Of Vietnam

E-5-2-68

Funeral Services for Sgt. Wesley Sperling

E-5-9-68

Funeral services for Sergeant Wesley Sperling, of the U.S. Army, were held on Wednesday, May 8th. Sergeant Sperling was killed in action while on duty in Vietnam. He was the first Vietnam victim from Washington County.

Sgt. Sperling died on April 5th at the age of 21. He is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Sperling, three brothers: Leon, Jerome and David, three sisters: Sheryl and Janelle who are all of Arlington. One sister, Mrs. Donald (Arlene) Reed is of Spokane, Washington. Two grandmothers also survive. They are Mrs. Wm. Sperling and Mrs. Wm. Vogt, both of Arlington.

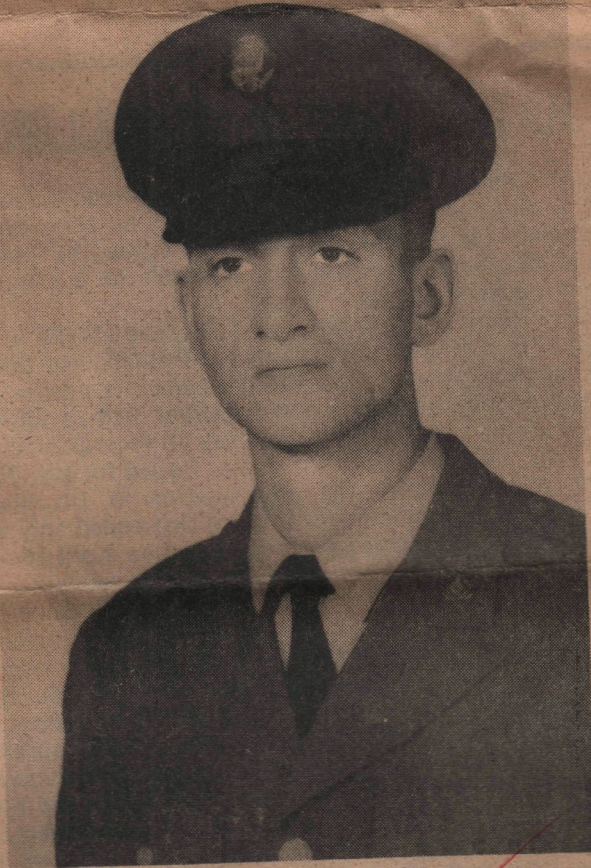
Services will be held at 1:30 on Wednesday at the Reckmeyer Funeral Chapel and at 2:00 p. m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church north of Arlington. Rev. Carl Hellmann will officiate with Reckmeyer Funeral Home in charge of arrangements. There will be a Military Committal in the St. Paul Lutheran Cemetery. Vietnam veteran, Sergeant King, accompanied the body to Arlington and will remain in Arlington until after the service.

There will be no viewing either at the Church or at the Mortuary.

Casket Bearers will be Richard Holtman, Norman Misfeldt, Jerry Scheer, Donald Brown, Neil Lang, and Don Sperling.

Honorary Casket Bearers are Steve Sibbersen, Rodney Grefe, Stanley Misfeldt, James Schlapfer, Sidney Clausen, Dennis Wilkins, Terry Brown and Donnie Dickmeyer.

The Arlington Community Club and Mayor Jack Cady have Proclaimed that business houses should close from 1:00 P. M. to 3:00 P. M. in honor of Sergeant Sperling. It is requested that flags be flown at Half-mast on Wednesday. The Arlington Schools will also be dismissed early on Wednesday in respect to Sgt. Sperling.



Sgt. Wesley Sperling Killed In Ground Action April 5th

Washington County's first casualty of the Vietnam War was revealed this week with the announcement of the death of Sgt. Wesley Sperling, of Arlington.

Official word was received by Sgt. Sperling's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Sperling, that he had been killed in action April 5th.

The telegram received by Mr. and Mrs. Sperling stated that Wesley's death was the result of a gun shot wound. His body had been recovered and would arrive in Arlington within the next ten to twenty days.

A Military funeral will be held at the St. Paul's Lutheran Church where Wesley was a member. The Rev. Carl Hellmann will officiate

and the Reckmeyer Funeral Home will be in charge.

The last letter Mr. and Mrs. Sperling had received from their son was on March 23rd after he had spent four days in Hong Kong for a rest period.

Wesley entered the service of the Marines in November of 1966 and has been in Vietnam for one year. He was born October 22, 1946. After graduating from the Arlington High School he attended the Universal Trade School in Omaha and studied mechanics. He graduated from a one year course.

Survivors, besides his parents, are three brothers, Leon, Jerome and David and sisters Sheryl and Janelle, (all at home) and another sister, Mrs. Don Reed (Arlene) of Spokane, Washington.