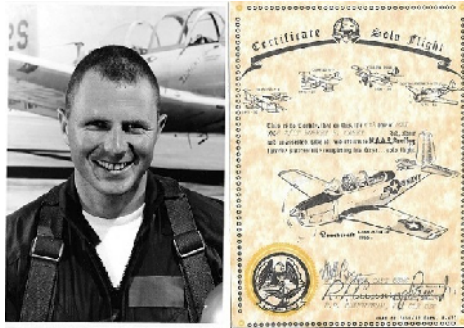


Casey, Robert Brian (Brian), 1st Platoon

13 May 1944 - 26 August 1969

Long Island Nat'l Cemetery, Farmingdale, NY



First Lieutenant Robert Brian Casey from Idaho Falls, Idaho was killed in an aircraft accident during A6 Intruder training at Cherry Point MCAS on 26 August 1969.

Robert Brian Casey "Brian" was born 13 May 1944 in Westerly, Rhode Island to Robert Ambrose Casey and Dorothy Louise Coyle. Brian had three younger siblings: brother Edward Coyle Casey and sisters, Janice A. Casey and Kathleen M. Casey. Brian's father was a lifelong employee of the General Dynamics – Electric Boat Division and his job required him to move the family twice. The family moved from Rhode Island to Saratoga Springs, NY in 1953 and then on to Idaho Falls, ID in 1962. Brian attended and graduated from St. Peter's Academy High School in Saratoga Springs. He lettered in football, baseball, and basketball. He was co-captain of the football team during his junior and senior years.

Brian was offered football scholarships from both Notre Dame and the University of Idaho. He selected the University of Idaho because it was closer to his family in Idaho Falls. After the first year of football, Brian had to abandon football and his scholarship due to a knee injury. He applied for and received an NROTC scholarship and put in four more years at U of Idaho obtaining a BA in English and Physical Education. He was a member of the Phi Delta Theta fraternity for 5 years. Having been an NROTC with Marine option, Brian would most likely have attended the 6-week Bulldog PLC at Quantico, VA in the summer of 1966. In order to earn extra money, Brian would work on the potato farms in Idaho.

At graduation in June 1967, Brian accepted his Regular commission as a 2nd Lieutenant and was off to The Officers Basic School (TBS), Class 1-68, Alpha Company, 1st Platoon. At the conclusion of TBS, Brian went to NAS Pensacola, Florida for flight school in the jet pipeline.

In a turn of fate, Brian was killed in an A-6A accident flying out of MCAS Cherry Point, NC. The following news article describes the accident:

From the *Idaho State Journal*, 29 Aug 1969: "Cherry Point, NC. (AP) – An Idaho Falls man has been killed in the crash of an A6A Intruder jet near Kinston, 40 miles west of Cherry Point. The Marine air station at Cherry Point said he was 1stLt Robert B. Casey. The crash occurred Wednesday, but identification was not released until late Thursday. Casey was the pilot. The

copilot, 1stLt Russell W. Albright, Delmar, NY was reported in satisfactory condition today with a broken leg and other injuries."

From *Report on A6-Intruder accidents*: "26 August 1969: Student pilot was performing SPLIT "S" from 20,000 feet. At a point when it was apparent the aircraft would not safely pull out, instructor pilot ejected and immediately thereafter student pilot ejected. Student pilot ejected too low. Chute did not fully deploy and he suffered fatal injuries. Instructor suffered serious injuries."

Brian was interred at the Long Island National Cemetery, Farmingdale, New York. Long Island National Cemetery was chosen because it is close to Brian's greater family roots of Westerly, RI and Saratoga Springs, NY.

USMC Resume:

The Basic School Class 1-68 Alpha Company, 1st Platoon, Jun-Nov 1967
Pensacola FL Flight School – Jet pipeline
MCAS Cherry Point – A-6 Squadron

Personal Reflections about Brian Casey:

A recollection from Mike Barretti: Dave [Baker] and Brian [Casey] were in my wedding party on November 26, 1967. Both of them, along with four other of my TBS "friends" Shanghaied me the night before the wedding, and I recall it was Dave and Ken Bruner who were the ring leaders. Dave became a favorite of my sister in law at the wedding, and they danced most of the night. However, Dave had a serious girlfriend at the time, whose name, regrettably, I don't recall, because they were talking marriage after Dave finished flight training. I lost touch with both guys shortly after, as we went our separate ways, but heard about Brian's death. Ironically, I didn't know about Dave's passing until I saw it in the info circulated for the reunion. Really sad about both of them.