

690107. Sgt Paul Fleming, Crew-Chief, USMC CH-46 #152552. Call-sign 'Lady Ace'. HMM-165, MAG-16, 1stMAW.

Pilot, Co-Pilot, 2 crew onboard. (FYI, other crew member was Sgt Glenn Hobart of Arlington, MA). This Unit had been off-shore at the USS Tripoli and had just moved to Marble Mountain near Danang. The flight was routine, a mail run down to Chu Lai. While returning to Marble, they inadvertently headed out to the South China Sea due to the dense clouds. Realizing they didn't have radios, they requested to be radar-vectored back. They got back to land, and the belief was they got misdirections where to go.....and they crashed into a mountain west of Chu Lai. SAR missions flew over the area for two days but couldn't locate the crash. It was eventually found over a year later, with both the helicopter and bodies inside intact.