

# Vietnam Veterans Memorial Self-Guided Cemetery Gravesite Pilgrimage

These local men's names are among the more than 58,000 names that appear on the Vietnam War Memorial in Washington D.C. According to The Wall's requirements, they died within or while on a mission to the defined combat zone of Vietnam.

Community members are invited to visit the graves of these men by using the map on the back of this page.

Did you know any of these men? The Library staff is collecting local memories to give breadth to their memory. Funny stories, sad stories and all shades in between are welcome. These recollections will be included in a permanent resource available in the Library's local history room. Please visit the library for a form or email: [info@pulaskicounty.lib.in.us](mailto:info@pulaskicounty.lib.in.us)



## INDIAN CREEK TOWNSHIP CEMETERY

### Lieutenant Stuart Marshall Binkley

**Oct. 2, 1947 - June 28, 1971**

Twenty-three-year-old Stuart Binkley served as a lieutenant in field artillery with the U.S. Army. He was a 1965 graduate of Winamac High School and received his business degree from Indiana University. Stuart left behind his wife, Melody. An additional marker in his memory was dedicated on the ground near the south side of the Administration Office at the Winamac Community High School.



## ST. PETER'S CATHOLIC CEMETERY

### Randall J. Nightingale

**November 26, 1943 - March 17, 1968**

Twenty-four-year-old Randall J. Nightingale served as an airman in the U.S. Navy. On March 17, 1968, Randall was on a night surveillance mission when his aircraft disappeared over the sea. It was never determined if the plane was shot down or went down due to other difficulties. The remains were not recovered, and all were presumed dead. He had previously lived in Illinois, but his wife was originally from Pulaski County and was living here with their twin daughters at the time of his death.

### Captain John W. Parcel

**March 30, 1947 - April 22, 1968**

Twenty-one-year-old John Parcel served as a rifleman with the U.S. Marines. John was in Vietnam for three months before being fatally wounded by an enemy mortar while on patrol. John graduated from Winamac High School in 1965, attended Ball State, and was a lifelong Pulaski County resident.

### Captain E. Gerald "Jerry" Shank Jr.

**June 21, 1936 - March 24, 1964**

Twenty-seven-year-old Captain Jerry Shank was a pilot assigned to the 1st Air Commando Squadron of Tactical Air Command. He was flying a USAF T-28 D with a Vietnam observer when his plane lost a wing during a dive-bombing run; both men perished. Jerry was a 1954 graduate of Winamac High School and earned an engineering degree from the University of Notre Dame in 1959. He left behind his wife and the couple's four children. Jerry was the first local casualty in the Vietnam War.

## WINAMAC TOWN CEMETERY

### Lt. Larry Gene Bonnell

**June 27, 1943 - April 25, 1967**

Twenty-three-year-old Lt. Larry Gene Bonnell was killed when the vehicle he was traveling in struck a Viet Cong mine. He was a 1961 graduate of Winamac High School and earned a degree in horticulture from Purdue. Larry was a member of the Winamac Methodist Church, and the local newspaper reported he sang a solo at church before leaving for the war, which included the words, "Let there be peace and let it begin with me."

## ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN

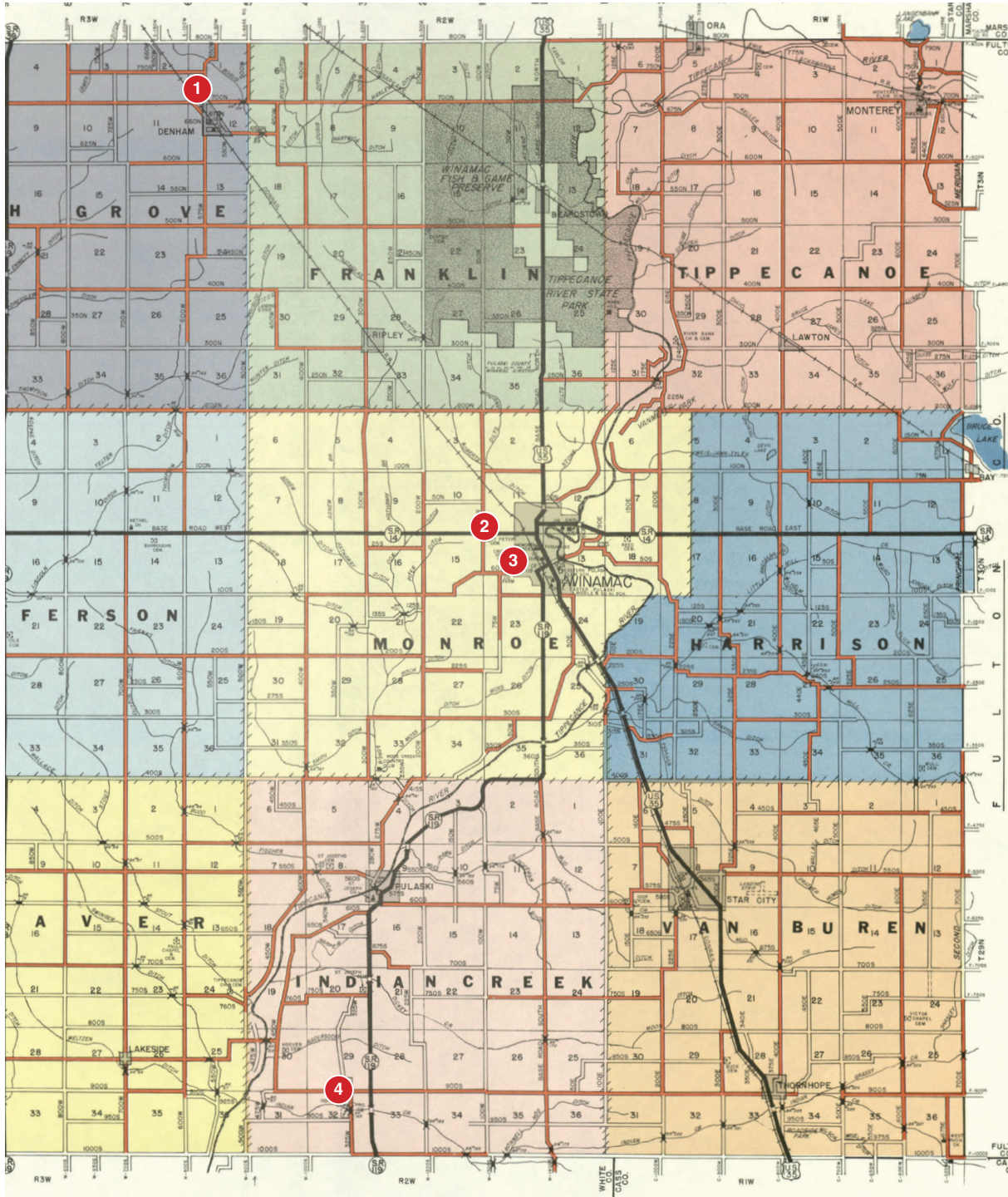
### Captain Richard W. Podell

**July 28, 1938 - June 9, 1967**

Twenty-eight-year-old Richard Podell was a Captain in the U.S. Air Force, stationed at Clark A.F.B. in the Philippines as a member of the Pacific Air Forces. Richard earned a degree from Indiana State University. On June 9, 1967, Captain Podell served as a navigator in a lead C-130B aircraft on routine shuttle flights between airfields in southern Vietnam. Their aircraft encountered hostile fire 12 miles from the air base and crashed in the swamp. Richard's remains were not identified at the crash site, and the family placed a Cenotaph in the cemetery in Denham. In 1994, Vietnamese villagers turned over additional human remains associated with the crash. In 2018, using mitochondrial D.N.A. analysis, the remains were identified as Richard's, and he was buried in Thornton, Texas, with full military honors. He left behind his wife and a son, who were on the airbase in the Philippines at the time of his death.



# Vietnam Veterans Memorial Gravesite Locations



## 1. ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CEMETERY

Take US 35 North from Winamac. Turn left onto CR 500 N. Turn right onto CR 575 W. Church and cemetery will be on the right.

### • Captain Richard W. Podell

Turn into the drive along the South side of the church. Facing East, his grave is in the 3<sup>rd</sup> row from the South drive and it's the 1<sup>st</sup> headstone from South to North.

## 2. ST. PETER'S CATHOLIC CEMETERY

Heading West on HWY 14 from Winamac, turn south into the 3<sup>rd</sup> drive of the Catholic Cemetery. Park in this drive. You will be able to walk to all three of the gravesites from this location.

### • Captain E. Gerald "Jerry" Shank Jr.

Facing South from the 3<sup>rd</sup> drive.

In the 1<sup>st</sup> row on the West side of the drive, his is the 8<sup>th</sup> headstone down from North to South.

### • Randall J. Nightingale

Facing South from the 3<sup>rd</sup> drive.

In the 1<sup>st</sup> row, on the West side of the drive, his is the 10<sup>th</sup> (flat) headstone from North to South.

### • Captain John W. Parcel

Facing South from the 3<sup>rd</sup> drive.

On the East side of the drive, his is located in the 8<sup>th</sup> row, 2<sup>nd</sup> headstone down from North to South.

## 3. WINAMAC TOWN CEMETERY

Driving West on Adams Street, turn right onto CR 50 W. Turn into the first cemetery driveway on your right.

### • Lt. Larry Gene Bonnell

Counting rows on the South side of the drive, his is the 27<sup>th</sup> row, and the 4<sup>th</sup> headstone in the row from the North.

## 4. INDIAN CREEK TOWNSHIP CEMETERY "PRO"

Heading South on HWY 119, turn right onto CR 900 S. Turn left onto CR 325 W.

### • Lieutenant Stuart Marshall Binkley

In the 4<sup>th</sup> row on the North side of the drive, his is the 2<sup>nd</sup> headstone in the row.