



4th Infantry Division



Joseph Kent Searle, a son of Alfred Tennyson Searle and Nora Warren, was born on December 11, 1947, in Payson, Utah. He was living in Park City when he was called to serve.

After training, he was assigned to the 8th Infantry Regiment. His tour in Vietnam began on April 17, 1968 and he was killed in action on September 24, 1968, while serving in Pleiku. He was awarded a Purple Heart, National Defense Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal and the Combat Infantry Badge.

At the time of his death, he was survived by his parents and four brothers; Larry Warren, Norman Alfred, Gordon Max and Brett Orin Searle. He was preceded in death by his brother Robert Searle. He is buried in the Lake Hills Cemetery in Sandy, Utah.

The 4th Division was first organized at Camp Green, North Carolina under the command of Major General George H. Cannon and was formally organized on December 10, 1917. The shoulder sleeve patch has four green ivy leaves joined at the center. Its nickname is the "Ivy Division" and it is derived from the four ivy leaves on the patch. The word "Ivy" is also a play on the Roman numeral four, "IV", (I-Vy). During the Vietnam War, the Division was comprised of four infantry regiments, the 8th, 12th, 22nd and 35th.

The Distinctive Unit Insignia of the 8th Regiment is composed of the following components: The shield is silver (white) with a blue bend, the Infantry colors; the heraldic flowers on the bend are symbolic of: first, the rose, the flower of the state of New York, where the regimental headquarters was first organized; second, the hispida, the flower of the Philippines, where the regiment saw service during the Insurrection; and third, the temple flower, which is the flower of Cuba, where the 8th served during the War with Spain. The arrow and tomahawk represent the Indian campaigns in which the regiment has participated and the claw represents the maimed strength of the Prussian eagle alludes to the regiment's part in the Occupation of Germany after World War I. The crest symbolizes service in the Mexican War; the 8th was the first United States Regiment to plant its colors on the fort at Churubusco.