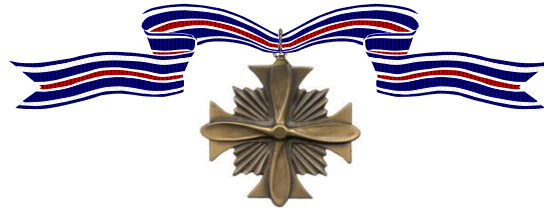


Gerald Wayne Loyd



Distinguished Flying Cross Award Citation

Newspaper article from the *Dumas Clarion*, Wednesday, November 12, 1969. "The citation for the Distinguished Flying Cross, for action February 23, 1969 read: For distinguished flying cross for heroism while participating in aerial flight evidenced by voluntary action above and beyond the call of duty. On this date Chief Warrant Officer Loyd was serving as aircraft commander of a combat support helicopter extracting long range reconnaissance patrol teams along known enemy infiltration routes. Arriving at the landing zone, Loyd found the friendly unit heavily engaged with an undetermined number of insurgent forces. Realizing the seriousness of the situation he immediately made several perilously low passes over the area to determine the relation of the aggressor emplacements to the friendly troops. Ignoring the hostile fusillade directed at his ship, he maneuvered his craft into the landing zone and positioned the helicopter in a manner which would allow his gunners to place fire on the enemy and cover the withdrawal of our forces. Successfully freeing the beleaguered unit from the perilous region, he informed the arriving gunships of the insurgent emplacements and allowed his craft to maneuver away. His exemplary professionalism and selfless concern for his comrades significantly contributed to the successful outcome of the encounter. His actions are in keeping with the finest traditions of the military service, and reflect great credit upon himself, the 1st Infantry Division and the United States Army."

Branch of Service: U. S. Army * Theatre for DFC: Vietnam * Aircraft: UH-1 Huey