

Gerald Lee Mitchell



**Distinguished Flying Cross Award
Citation**

Captain Gerald L. Mitchell distinguished himself by extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight as a Forward Air Controller near Phan Thiet, Republic of Vietnam on 28 October 1969. On that date, Captain Mitchell flew in support of a Long-Range Reconnaissance Patrol which was under heavy attack by a numerically superior hostile force. Despite mountainous terrain, deteriorating weather and intense anti-aircraft fire Captain Mitchell skillfully guided his unarmed aircraft low over the area to direct tactical air power which culminated in the successful exfiltration of the beleaguered unit. The professional competence, aerial skill and devotion to duty displayed by Captain Mitchell reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Air Force.

Branch of Service: U. S. Air Force * Theatre for DFC: Vietnam * Aircraft: O2A