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SGT JAMES HAIDER

AUGUST 13, 2022

WATERTOWN, SD





On November 26, 2019, South Dakota launched the Fallen Heroes Bridge Dedication Program. The program dedicates state bridges to South Dakota heroes who died while in active service, were a prisoner of war or were missing in action.

The Big Sioux River Bridge on US HWY 212, near Watertown, is dedicated to U.S. Army Sergeant James Haider.

Haider was killed on June 9, 1969, as the result of fatal fragment wounds he received when his unit came under intense enemy mortar attack near the village of Nuoc Dang (approximately 32 miles south of Quang Ngai City in Quang Ngai Province, Republic of South Vietnam).

For his service...and sacrifice...Haider received many medals and citations. Among them...the Silver Star Medal, the Bronze Star Medal and the Purple Heart were posthumously awarded.