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SILVER STAR AWARDED TO GLEN ROCK AIRMAN

U. S. Air Force Airman First Class Charles R. Ingulli Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles R. Ingulli, 282 Gramercy Place, had been decorated with the Silver Star at Bien Toa AB, Vietnam, for heroism in Southeast Asia.

Airman Ingulli, a para-rescueman with Detachment 6, 38th Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Squadron, was cited for gallantry at the risk of his own life while engaged in a rescue mission.

On March 20 he was called upon to rescue a critically injured O-1 Bird Dog pilot who had been downed in an extremely hostile area of jungle known as the "Lai Khe rocket belt." At the time of the rescue the area was known to be infested with Viet Cong and North Vietnamese Army rocket artillery troops.

Arriving over the crash site, Airman Ingulli was lowered to the ground from the HH-43 Huskie helicopter. Although it was after dark, he thoroughly explored the aircraft wreckage in search of the downed pilot.

Finding no one, he then expanded his search into the surrounding jungle, disregarding the possibility of hostile activity. After ten minutes of searching with his flashlight, he discovered the semi-conscious, severely burned pilot.

Airman Ingulli immediately notified the helicopter crew and requested a litter be lowered to the ground. Working swiftly and skillfully, he secured the injured pilot in the litter and signaled for him to be hoisted aboard the aircraft. The airman then waited until he could also be lifted to safety and began immediate first aid once in the helicopter with the wounded pilot.

Enroute to the hospital, Airman Ingulli administered heart massage and was able to sustain the pilot's life until he was delivered safely to medical authorities.

A graduate of Glen Rock High School, the airman received his BS degree from Wittenberg University, Springfield, Ohio. Prior to entering the Air Force in 1967, he was a teacher at Xenia, Ohio. He has served 10 months in Vietnam.