



Specialist Four Leonard L. Alvarado  
**MEDAL OF HONOR**  
VIETNAM WAR



**Posthumous**

**Location of Action:** Phuoc Long Province, Vietnam

**Date of Action:** Aug. 12, 1969

**Service Dates:** July 25, 1968 – Aug. 12, 1969

**Hometown:** Bakersfield, California

Medal of Honor candidate Spc. 4 Leonard Alvarado was born in Bakersfield, Calif., Feb. 13, 1947.

Alvarado is being recognized for his valorous actions on Aug. 12, 1969 while serving as a rifleman during a mission to relieve a sister platoon in Phuoc Long Province, Vietnam. Alvarado was responsible for recognizing and disrupting an enemy raid while his team was assisting a trapped platoon. Despite his quick reaction, he and his comrades were quickly pinned down by the hostile force that blocked the path to the trapped platoon. Alvarado quickly moved forward through the hostile machine-gun fire in order to engage the enemy troops. Suddenly, an enemy grenade exploded nearby, wounding and momentarily stunning him. Retaliating immediately, he killed the grenadier just as another enemy barrage wounded him again. He crawled forward through the fusillade to pull several comrades back within the hastily-formed perimeter. Realizing that his element must break away from the hostile force, he began maneuvering forward alone. Though repeatedly thrown to the ground by exploding satchel charges, he continued advancing and firing, silencing several emplacements, including one enemy machine-gun position. From his dangerous forward position, he persistently laid suppressive fire on the hostile forces, and after the enemy troops had broken contact, his comrades discovered that he had succumbed to his wounds. Alvarado was killed in action after disrupting an enemy raid and saving the lives of several comrades, leaving behind his wife and young daughter.

Lenora M. Alvarado will accept the Medal of Honor award from President Barack Obama on March 18, 2014 on behalf of her father.