



Sergeant Candelario Garcia  
**MEDAL OF HONOR**  
VIETNAM WAR



**Posthumous**

**Location of Action:** Lai Khe, Vietnam

**Date of Action:** December 8, 1968

**Service Dates:** May 28, 1963 – Unknown

**Hometown:** Corsicana, Texas

Medal of Honor candidate Sgt. Candelario Garcia was born in Corsicana, Texas, Feb. 26, 1944.

Garcia distinguished himself on Dec. 8, 1968 while serving with Company B, 1st Battalion, 2nd Infantry, 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division as a team leader during a company-size reconnaissance-in-force mission near Lai Khe, Vietnam. Garcia's platoon discovered communication wire, and other signs of an enemy base camp, leading into a densely vegetated area. As they advanced they came under intense fire, causing several men to be wounded and trapped in the open. Ignoring a hail of hostile bullets, Garcia crawled to within ten meters of a machine-gun bunker, leaped to his feet and ran directly at the fortification, firing his rifle as he charged. He jammed two hand grenades into the gun port and then placed the muzzle of his weapons inside, killing all four occupants. Continuing to expose himself to intense enemy fire, Garcia raced fifteen meters to another bunker and killed its three defenders with hand grenades and rifle fire. After again braving the communists' barrage to rescue two casualties, he joined his company in an assault, which overran the remaining enemy positions.

Garcia passed away on Jan. 10, 2013. A family member will accept the Medal of Honor from President Barack Obama on March 18, 2014 on behalf of Sgt. Garcia.