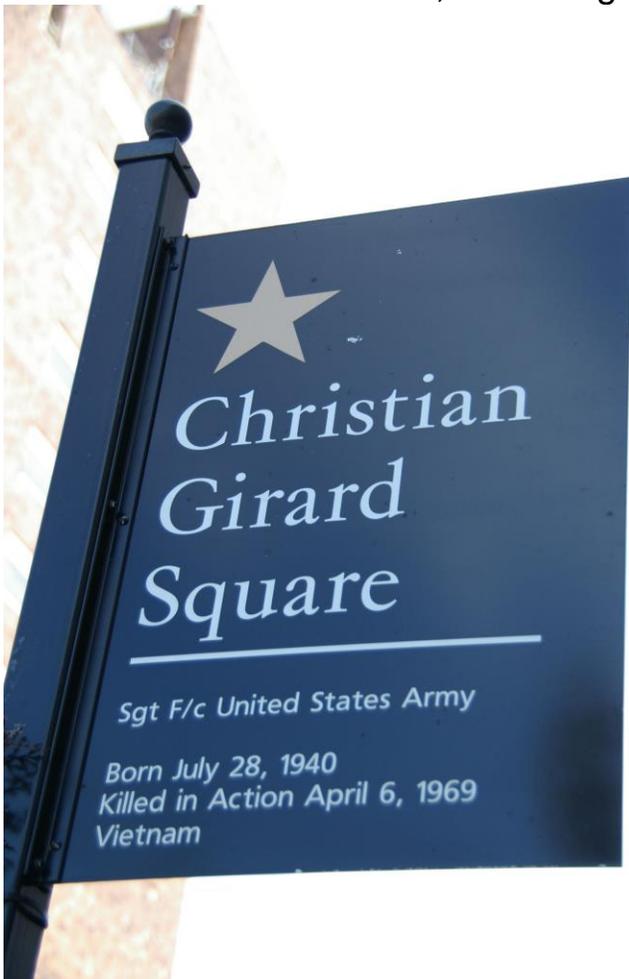


Dear Mr. Martin,

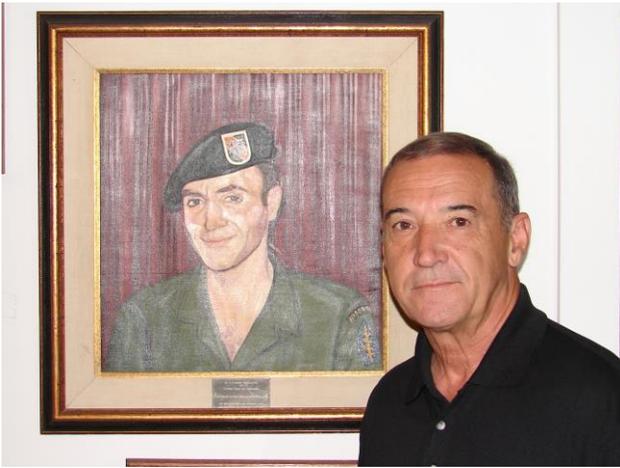
Thank you for your inquiry regarding SFC Christian G. Girard. On March 15, 1971 the city of Cambridge, MA dedicated a sign (which we refer to as a square) at the intersections of Cambridge and Prospect streets in honor of SFC Girard.

Every Memorial Day, his sign is decorated with a memorial spray honoring his service and sacrifice. I have attached a photo of the sign.

Bob Stevens, Director
Cambridge Veterans' Services
51 Inman Street 2nd Floor, Cambridge, MA 02139



When Frenchy Girard was in Team 162, he had a friend, Jim Cole, who was in SOG. Here is Jim's story about Frenchy. If anyone is ever in Berea, OH (which is just 20 miles south west of Cleveland) make a point to visit Noshok, Inc. and see the **wonderful Hall of Honor** that Jim has dedicated to Frenchy. Like all of us, Jim is getting older and his son, Christian, now handles the business. All of Frenchy's friends will be warmly welcomed to Noshok, Inc. by Jim and Christian.



James B. Cole grew up a poor farm boy near Fort Bragg, N.C. thinking all he ever wanted to be was a soldier. Seven of his uncles had served in World War II and he dropped out of high school to volunteer for the US Army during the Vietnam War. He became a member of the Special Forces and served many years in Vietnam. During this time, he befriended **Christian “Frenchy” Girard**. In late 1968, **Frenchy** left Team 162 of the Vietnamese Airborne Division and joined **Jim** in SOG.

Frenchy was on a mission in Cambodia with another American and four Montagnards when they were compromised by an NVA battalion. They had a two hour gun battle while they fought their way to the pick up site. At the site, all but **Frenchy** were aboard the helicopter when the boom was shot by a NVA heavy machine gun. The chopper spun, knocked **Frenchy** to the ground and then crashed upon him.

Jim Cole met French’s mother at his funeral in Cambridge, MA. Both of **Frenchy’s** grandfathers were killed in France during WWI and his father was killed in Algeria in 1953 with the French Foreign Legion. A square in the town of Cambridge is dedicated to **Christian Girard**.

Frenchy and his mother came to the United States in 1955. **Frenchy** served a tour in the US Navy before enlisting in the US Army. He was with the 1/327th when the 1st BDE of the 101st Airborne deployed to Vietnam. After this tour was over, he extended and was an advisor to the Vietnamese Airborne from 1966 -1968.

Since **Frenchy** had no siblings, **Frenchy’s** mother sent **Jim Cole** all of his military memorabilia. After leaving the Army, **Cole** purchased a small machine shop in 1976 and built it into Noshok, Inc., a \$14 million company that assembles gauges for industrial applications that are marketed worldwide with manufacturing facilities located in Berea, Ohio and Guadalajara, Mexico.

James Cole’s commitment to preserving the legacy of American valor is self evident in the **Hall of Honor** that is dedicated to **Frenchy** in his company in Berea, OH. **Jim** has created in his corporate offices a workplace that celebrates the legacy of this great American hero, **Christian G. Girard** who was killed on a secret mission in Cambodia on April 8, 1969. A large hall in Noshok’s corporate offices is a museum like **Hall of Honor** displaying **Girard’s** medals including three silver stars and five bronze stars, framed condolence letters, and other effects passed on to **Cole** by **Girard’s** mother. **Jim** also sponsors an annual scholarship, the **Christian Girard Memorial**, for the outstanding graduate of the Howe Military School in Howe, IN.





