F-111 “Vark” Memorial Park, Clovis, New Mexico
etched in gold lettering are the names of all 115 aircrew killed in F-111 accidents worldwide; same stone as the Vietnam memorial in Washington DC …
F-111 "VARK" MEMORIAL PARK

"DEDICATED TO THE F-111 AIRCREWS WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES IN DEFENSE OF OUR NATIONS FREEDOM"

F-111D 68-0140

Aircraft 68-0140 was the 58th of 96 F-111D Models produced by General Dynamics Corp. Ft. Worth, Texas. It was the 67th "D" Model delivered to the U.S. Air Force on 29 November, 1972. This Aircraft spent its entire operational service life here in New Mexico with the 37th Fighter Wing at Cannon AFB.

The F-111 "WARRIOR" carried several firsts to aviation history, among these were: Variable Geometry Wings, Ejectable Crew Module, Automatic Terrain Following Radar and Afterburning Turbo-fan Engines. 562 F-111's were Manufactured from 1964 through 1976 seeing service with the U.S. Air Force (F-111A / FB-111A / F-111D / F-111E / F-111F), U.S. Navy (F-111B) and the Royal Australian Air Force (F-111C).

### Aircraft Specifications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specification</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Length</td>
<td>73 ft 6 1/2 in</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wingspan</td>
<td>62 ft 6 in</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Empty Weight</td>
<td>46,631 lb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fuel Internal</td>
<td>4,197 gal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engine Type</td>
<td>TF33-3/P9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Max Altitude</td>
<td>60,000 ft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Max Range</td>
<td>2,500 NM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAX OX Ordinance Payload</td>
<td>20,000 lb</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Dedicated November 16, 1996

---

**COMBAT LANCER VIETNAM 1968**

CHIMA 77  F-11A  66-022
MAJ. HENRY McCANN
CAPT. DENNIS GRAHAM
TAILBONE 78  F-11A  66-024
COMMANDER DAVID L. COOLEY  U.S.N.
LT. COL. EDWIN D. PALMGREN

RANGER 23  F-111A  67-079
MAJ. WILLIAM C. COLMAN
LT. ROBERT A. BRETT JR.
COACH 33  F-11A  67-066
CAPT. JAMES A. HOC RUDGE
LT. ALLEN U. GRAHAM

WHALER 57  F-11A  67-063
MAJ. ROBERT BROWN
BURGER 54  F-111A  67-092
CAPT. DONALD D. STRATFORD
CAPT. CHARLES J. CAFFERRILLI
SNUG 40  F-111A  67-099
LT. COL. RONALD J. WARD
MAJ. JAMES R. McGELVAIN

**OPERATION ELDORADO CANYON**

APR 14-15 1986
KARMAN 52  F-111F  70-2389
MAJ. FERNANDO L. RIBAS-DOMINICCI
CAPT. PAUL F. LORENCE

**DESERT SHIELD** 10 OCT 90
COUGAR 41  F-111F  54-0187
CAPT. FREDERICK A. REID
CAPT. THOMAS R. CALDWELL
Why the odd number?

• The very first F-111 accident
• Pre-production F-111A, Aircraft no: 63-9774
• Crashed and destroyed 19 January 1967 at Edwards AFB
• Killed was the pilot only, MAJ Herbert F. Brightwell
• WSO Donovan I. McCance lived
• The aircraft landed short of runway due to the wings being accidentally swept in the wrong direction. The pilot, MAJ Brightwell was not significantly injured in the crash landing, went around to unfasten the right seater. Tragically, the pilot was standing in a pool of JP4 which subsequently ignited and incinerated him.
FLT LT STEPHEN M. ERSKINE RAAF
CAPT GREGORY S. ANGELL USAF
MAJ FERNANDO L. RIBAS-DOMINICCI
CAPT PAUL F. LORENCE
FLT LT MARK FALLON RAAF
FLT OFF WILLIAM PIKE RAAF
CAPT THOMAS F. "CHIP" STEM
CAPT PHILIP D. "PHIL" BALDWIN
CAPT ROBERT A. MEYER JR.
CAPT FREDERICK A. GERMHART
CAPT GLENN E. TROSTER
CAPT MICHAEL L. BARRITT
Shorty & Nige were the last names inscribed; thankfully there were no more F-111 fatal accidents as there was no room left on the Vark wall!!
Note from WGCDDR Mike Smith: In 1999 I was posted to the Embassy in Washington DC with Ray Perry as the Air Attaché when we found out about the F-111G crash in Malaysia. Mr. Steve Hyre, aka “Doc Servo” www.f-111.net, took it upon himself to pay for Shorty & Nige’s names to be inscribed on the wall at his expense so we thought the least we could do was to pay him back; Embassy ended up funding the refurbishment of the entire wall’s etchings and conducting a wreath-laying ceremony with the local Mayor and dignitaries from Canon AFB nearby …
Note from GPCAPT Mike Smith: I made another brief visit to the Vark Memorial in Jan 2010; on the way back from my tour in the JSF Program Office to pay my respects to some old pig mates, the wall’s still in good shape but the gold lettering has faded since 1999 …