

# His Name Isn't on Lists -- Steadfast Family Waits

By Rick Carroll

"Is our POW on the list?" 6-year-old Chipper Page asked his mother in San Jose yesterday.

"No, honey," his mother said somehow managing to mask her own deep disappointment.

Their POW is Chipper's daddy, a daddy he's never seen except in well-thumbed family photo albums.

But that tall, handsome smiling man in Air Force blue didn't make anybody's list of prisoners coming home.

He's missing in action, a limbo-like status he's occupied since March 7, 1966, before Chipper was born.

His father — Major Gordon Page — disappeared with his photo reconnaissance plane over North Vietnam and nobody's seen or heard from him since.

"He just didn't come back," said Lou, his brave, smiling wife and mother of his three children who waits,

clinging to one last hope that he's still alive despite the lists that indicate otherwise.

"The Laos list isn't out yet," said Mrs. Page, her blue eyes glistening on the verge of tears.

The whole family — there's also Jeff who is 17 and Julie who is 14 — got their hopes up last Saturday.

"They told us we would know for sure — one way or the other," Mrs. Page said.

Instead — disappointment. Only confirmation of something they already knew, that he's missing in action.

A Gordon Paige made the repatriation lists but he was another man whose name was spelled differently.

"It may be just a feeling I have, but ... deep down inside ... I feel he's alive somewhere," said the steadfast Mrs. Page.

This unshakeable intuition plays with her emotions like a runaway roller coaster.

"I'm waiting for the next phone call," Mrs. Page said.



Gordon Page's family: his wife Lou and Jeff, 17, Julie, 14 and Chipper, 6. The dog is Toby.