F6440 FOLLOW YOUR HEART (USA, 4/2/1990) [TV]

Credits: director, Noel Nosseck; writers, John Faunce Roach, Dan Fauci, Cynthia Whitcomb; novel, Percival Everett.

Cast: Patrick Cassidy, Catherine Mary Stewart, Jace Alexander, Jim Beaver.

Summary: David Larson (Cassidy) an ex-Marine in search of some defining life direction, unexpectedly faces a hurdle when his jeep breaks down in a sparsely populated Western town. While waiting for parts to repair the vehicle he is offered a temporary job as a rest area attendant by a Vietnam veteran named Hraboy (Beaver) and moves onto a nearby ranch run by one-legged widow Cloe Sixbury (Sternhagen) with her mentally handicapped son named Patrick (Alexander). When a Vietnamese girl abandoned at the rest stop is raped, Patrick is found standing over the body of Hraboy, whom he has shot. The outraged locals are about to lynch Patrick when David intervenes to save him with evidence that Hraboy was the rapist – the patch from Hraboy’s old fatigue jacket was found clutched in the girl’s hand. The group then burns Hraboy’s body and conceals the crimes from the police.

Beerman, Jill S. “Follow your heart” Vietnam war feature filmography (1992 draft) [GB] (p. 154-5) and Vietnam war films [GB] (Entry 218)
Lanning, Michael Lee. Vietnam at the movies [GB] (p. 223)