

2017 GMVHOF INDUCTEES



Bobbie Evan Brown, Jr. (MEDAL OF HONOR) (Posthumous)

Captain (Ret), Army, Dublin. On 8 Oct 1944 as a Company Commander in Germany in the 1st Infantry Division, he received orders to attack a hill which had 43 large, heavily-fortified, concrete-reinforced bunkers. His company's mission was to knock-out seven of them. Armed with satchel charges, he alone led the attack on the first three, the largest of which had 45 enemy soldiers and numerous firing ports. Although seriously wounded three times, he continued to lead his men as they successfully completed their mission. His combat awards are: Combat Infantry Badge, Bronze Star Medal for Valor, eight Purple Hearts, two Silver Stars, and the Medal of Honor.



John Henry Burson, III (ACHIEVEMENT)

Lieutenant Colonel (Ret), Army, Carrollton. A graduate of Georgia Tech and Emory Medical School, he served on active duty as a Chemical Officer and 30 years in the Reserves. In 1975 he deployed to Iraq with the Army National Guard. Despite mandatory military retirement in 1994, he volunteered for the following three deployments as a much-needed Army MD: Iraq, 2007, MP unit; Afghanistan, 2009 & 2011, Infantry Battalion & SF unit. In total, he volunteered for four tours of hazardous duty, three of which while in his 70's, making him the oldest MD in the military. He's a true patriot, still practices medicine in Villa Rica and serves pro bono at the Carrollton VA Clinic.



Phillip Curtis Corbin (VALOR)

Sergeant, Marine Corps, Savannah. In Korea, in May 1951, he moved forward to check on some of his squad members that had been in contact with the enemy while posted on a rocky slope forward of the unit's position. Finding all the men dead, he quickly moved forward to locate the enemy, surprised and immediately killed seven Chinese Soldiers, causing the remainder of the enemy unit to hastily retreat. In June 1951, while on a scouting mission with another Marine, they encountered many enemy soldiers, captured 32 of them, and brought them back to the American lines. For these two heroic actions, he was awarded the Purple Heart and two Silver Stars.



Eric Roy England (ACHIEVEMENT)

Master Sergeant (Ret), Marine Corps, Blairsville. He enlisted in the Marines in 1950 and for the next 23+ years he served with distinction as a Scout Sniper & Tactical Weaponry Instructor, as a world record-holder marksman, and as a member of the USMC Rifle Team, the US Rifle Team, and two Olympic Shooting Teams. In Vietnam as a Sniper, he saved an untold number of US and allied lives due to his confirmed enemy kills of 98 and dozens more listed as "probable". He won numerous national and international competitions as well as setting several world marksmanship records including the National Marksmanship record set at Fort Benning, GA in 1968.



Thomas Lloyd Foster (VALOR)

Specialist, Army, Marietta. On 28 April 1968 in Vietnam, while serving as a Squad Leader in an Infantry Platoon of the 25th Infantry Division, Specialist Foster's unit came under intense enemy fire resulting in the wounding and disabling of all the unit's leaders. Assessing this dire situation and without hesitation, he immediately took command of the platoon, rallied the men that were still able to fight, re-distributed dwindling ammunition, administered first aid, evacuated the wounded, and directed a successful break in contact with the enemy. For his gallantry in action he was awarded the Combat Infantry Badge, two Purple Hearts, and the Silver Star.



Vance Snelson Gammons (VALOR)

Lieutenant Colonel (Ret), Army, Marietta. As an Airborne, Ranger, Pathfinder, Aviator, Infantry Officer, he volunteered for Vietnam in 1964, 1966 & 1969 for a total of over 40 months in combat. During these tours, he was decorated for heroism on three separate occasions. Each of those events involved his unrelenting determination to save the lives of fellow Soldiers as he piloted helicopters, even when his aircraft was being riddled by enemy fire and severely wounding him in the process. For his heroism, he was awarded 25 Air Medals for combat flying, the Air Medal for Valor, the Bronze Star Medal for Valor, the Purple Heart, and the Distinguished Flying Cross.



Justin Craig Honaman (VALOR)

First Lieutenant, Army, Atlanta. In 1967, as an Army Medical Service Corps "Dustoff" Helicopter Pilot and Aircraft Commander in Vietnam, he was decorated for heroism on three occasions. The theme in each of these citations was his focus, determination, and coolness while under constant enemy fire as he conducted continuous and multiple extractions of over 50 critically wounded Soldiers. Often, he had to steadily hover at tree-top level as the wounded were being slowly hoisted up through the jungle canopy. For his heroism, he was awarded the Combat Medical Badge, 16 Air Medals for combat flying, two Air Medals for Valor, and the Distinguished Flying Cross.



Fred Orr Jackson, Jr. (VALOR) (Killed-In-Action)

Captain, Army, Columbus. As an Airborne, Ranger, Aviator, Infantry Officer, he twice served in Vietnam. On his first tour, as a Rifle Platoon Leader and a Reconnaissance Platoon Leader, he was decorated for heroism and wounds received as his recon unit engaged a much larger enemy force. During his second tour, he was a Cobra Helicopter Platoon Leader. On 5 September 1969, while providing gun support to a ground unit, his ship was hit by machine gun fire, causing it to explode and instantly killing him. For his heroism, he was awarded the Combat Infantry Badge, Air Medal, Bronze Star Medal for Valor, two Purple Hearts, and the Distinguished Flying Cross.



Patricia Elaine Liddell (SERVICE)

Master Sergeant (Ret), Army, Columbus. In 2002 her car was rear-ended by a young lady experiencing labor pains. While checking on the lady, another car struck her resulting in a coma, broken neck, and fractured leg and hip. Told that she would never walk again, she not only walked but, then dedicated her life to assisting Veterans, widows, and family members with VA claims. Her tireless dedication to this noble cause has resulted in hundreds of success stories as she worked thousands of hours without pay, drove thousands of miles, and attended hundreds of Veteran's funerals. This 26-year career Soldier and patriot is the epitome of a stoic, selfless servant.



Zell Bryan Miller (SERVICE)

Sergeant, Marine Corps, Young Harris. Senator Zell Miller enlisted in 1953 and is extremely proud to have served as a Sergeant in the Marines. As author of the book entitled Corps Values, he recounts the simple but powerful lessons he learned in service. Always a dedicated public servant and supporter of our military, he retired from the Senate in 2004, having served since 1999. He served two-terms as Governor and 16 years as the Lieutenant Governor. The HOPE Scholarship and Pre-Kindergarten Programs that Senator Miller created as governor remain today, offering educational benefits to our youth as they prepare to become adult citizens of this great nation.



Henry Franklin Mount, Jr. (VALOR) (Posthumous)

Corporal, Army, LaFayette. During WWII in the winter of 1945, as the leader of a six-man reconnaissance team from the 3rd Infantry Division deep behind German lines, his team came upon two German officers. Quickly, he convinced them that they were just a small element of a huge American force. The ruse worked causing the officers plus 25 other enemy to surrender. During the march to friendly lines, this young leader directed his men to guard the prisoners from within the formation to avoid exposure to enemy sniper fire. For his unshakeable bravery and effective tactical results, he was awarded our nation's third highest award for valor, the Silver Star.



Alexander Ramsey Nininger, Jr. (MEDAL OF HONOR) (Killed-In-Action)

Second Lieutenant, Army, Gainesville. On 12 January 1942, near Bataan, Philippine Islands, he voluntarily attached himself to an adjacent unit which was under heavy attack by a much larger Japanese force. In the savage, unrelenting, hand-to-hand fighting which followed, he repeatedly charged enemy positions, attacking with rifle fire, grenades, and bayonet. Although wounded three times, he continued his attack until he was killed deep within the enemy's position. When his body was later found, the bodies of many enemy soldiers lay close-by as a testament to his undaunted bravery. He was the first Medal of Honor Recipient of World War II.



Samuel Augustus Nunn, Jr. (SERVICE)

Seaman Apprentice, Coast Guard, Perry. Senator Sam Nunn has lived a life of selfless service as a Coast Guardsman, member of the Georgia House of Representatives, US Senator, and CEO of the Nuclear Threat Initiative. As Chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, his major legislative accomplishments were the 1986 DoD Reorganization Act, the greatest defense reorganization since the 1947 National Security Act and the 1991 Cooperative Threat Reduction Program which provided incentives for Russia and former Soviet republics to destroy excess nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons. Senator Nunn helped to make the world much safer.



Rembert Gary "Gabe" Rollison (VALOR) (Posthumous)

Lieutenant Colonel (Ret), Army, Hinesville. Upon graduation from North Georgia College and commissioning in the Infantry, he completed Airborne and Ranger schools prior to two Vietnam tours. His first was with the 25th Infantry Division as a Rifle Platoon Leader, then with the 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile) as a Rifle Company Commander. During these tours, he was decorated for valor on four separate occasions. Each of those citations reveal his total focus on saving the lives of his men while courageously leading them in combat. His combat awards are: Combat Infantry Badge, Army Commendation Medal for Valor, Soldier's Medal, and two Silver Stars.



James Duncan Shi, Jr. (VALOR) (Posthumous)

Lieutenant Colonel (Ret), Army, Macon. He enlisted in the Georgia National Guard before WWII but, once the war began, he volunteered for Infantry Officer Candidate School and was later assigned to the 45th Infantry Division. He fought in amphibious landings at Sicily, Salerno, Anzio, and Southern France. At Anzio on 23 May 1944, he demonstrated his leadership and courage as he led the repulse of a strong enemy attack which threatened to cut off part of his battalion. On 29 April 1945, he was part of the force that liberated the 32,000+ prisoners at Dachau Concentration Camp. His combat awards are: Combat Infantry Badge, two Purple Hearts, and the Silver Star.



Thomas Peter Talley (VALOR) (Posthumous)

Major General (Ret), Air Force. Atlanta. Immediately upon graduation from Georgia Tech, he entered the Army Air Corps as a flight cadet, graduating in 1941 as Second Lieutenant. Shortly after the beginning of World War II, he deployed to the Pacific Theater of Operations where he flew as a bomber pilot throughout that vast area. After the war, he enrolled in Emory Medical School and upon graduation, deployed to the Korean War in the newly formed US Air Force serving as a Squadron Leader and Flight Surgeon. Dr. Talley served for over 30 years in active and reserve status. For his air combat actions during WW II, he was awarded the Purple Heart and two Silver Stars.



Ernest William Walls (VALOR) (POW)

Private First-Class, Army, Monroe. At 18, he joined the Army. A few months later, on D-Day, 6 June 1944, he was part of the 4th Infantry Division, one of the first units to storm the beaches of Normandy, France. Realizing that he and his men would most likely die, they nonetheless disembarked and fought their way across the killing fields of Utah Beach. Six days later his squad was decimated, he was wounded, and soon captured by the Germans. He was a POW in German Stalag 11A in Brandenburg, Germany for over ten months until he was liberated in April 1945. His combat awards are: Prisoner of War Medal, Purple Heart, and the Bronze Star Medal for combat service.