



**Lieutenant Colonel  
Robert E. Bent  
Class 4-61**

Lieutenant Colonel Bent served a tour of duty with Military Assistance Command Vietnam (MAVC) as Senior Advisor to a Vietnamese Army Artillery Battalion. He returned for a second tour in Vietnam serving with the Americal Division, where his duties included assignment as Executive Officer, 1st Battalion, 82nd Artillery.

He served as Senior Advisor to an Alabama National Guard Artillery Battalion and was later Chief of the Course Development Division at the U.S. Army Aviation Brigade. His next assignment was Commander of the Army Weapons Support Detachment in Chunchon, Korea. He then spent four years as a Nuclear Effects Staff Officer in the Operations Division of the Army Nuclear and Chemical Agency. He culminated his military career at the Defense Nuclear Agency, as Chief of the Nuclear Survivability and Security Division.

Since retirement, he has worked tirelessly as a full-time volunteer advocating for disabled veterans and families, including those veterans incarcerated in correctional facilities or facing serious legal issues. In 1987, he developed and organized the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Department of Virginia Service Commission. He led that organization for 28 years. He later served on the DAV National Executive Committee and was elected National Commander of the National Order of Trench Rats in 2015. He has dedicated himself to ensuring that veterans are able to access the full range of benefits available and enjoy a comfortable quality of life.

Lieutenant Colonel Bent's decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Bronze Star with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal and the Army Meritorious Service Medal.