

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH FOR THE FIELD ARTILLERY OCS HALL OF FAME

Name: (Last Name, First): **Collins, Brien Thomas** OCS Class & Year: **13-64, 1964**

Retirement Date: **1968** Date of Birth: **October 17, 1940** Date of Death: **March 19, 1993**

Date of Rank: **2Lt - 7 Dec 1964** **1LT - 1966** **CPT - 1967**

Assignment History

1963 - 1964	Enlisted Service, U.S.Army
7 Dec 1964	Graduated from U.S.Army Artillery OCS, Class 13-64, Fort Sill, OK
1964 - 1965	2d Lieutenant, 82d Airborne Division, Dominican Republic
Dec '65 - Dec '66	2d Lieutenant & 1st Lieutenant, First Tour of Duty in Vietnam, Artillery Forward Observer with 2d Battalion, 12th Cavalry, 1st Air Cavalry Division, Republic of Vietnam.
1966 - 1967	Captain, Tactical Cmmander, Mobile Guerrilla Force, 5th Special Forces Group, IV Corps, Republic of Vietnam.
June 20, 1967	Wounded in Action; medical evacuation from Republic of vietnam.
1967 - 1968	Medical patient in seven different U.S.Army Hospitals undergoing 19 seperate surgical procedures including amputation of his right arm and right leg.
1968	Medical retirement from U.S.Army with rank of Captain.

General Remarks

See Exhibits A through Q attached.

Additional Application Information

Individual Filing Application: **LTC Joseph Mondzak. AUS, RET** OCS Class: **67 - 1955**
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CALIFORNIA ASSEMBLYMAN B.T. COLLINS

B.T. Collins, a Vietnam War veteran and double amputee, made a name for himself as a maverick conservative Republican, having served as the Deputy legislative Secretary and Chief of Staff to former Democratic Governor Jerry Brown.

As the Director of the California Conservation Corps, Collins made national headlines in June 1981 when he drank malathion during the medfly crisis to prove to his corpsmembers that it was harmless.

In 1983 Collins was a Vice President for the investment banking firm of Kidder, Peabody and Co., inc. In February 1989, California State Treasurer Thomas Hayes, who was appointed to fill the seat left vacant by Jesse Unruh's death and who ran for re-election in 1990, picked Collins to be his Chief Deputy.

California's Governor Wilson appointed Collins as Director of the California Youth Authority on March 1, 1991. Again, B.T. Collins made headlines with his policy of returning the ward's letters if they contained grammatical or spelling mistakes.

In July 1991 Collins resigned as Director of the Youth Authority and announced his candidacy for the vacant California State Assembly seat in the Fifth District. After being the top vote getter in both the primary and general special elections, B.T. Collins was sworn in by Governor Wilson on September 18, 1991. Collins was re-elected in November of 1992 to the Fifth Assembly seat for a second term. During his tenure in the California Assembly B.T. Collins served as a member of the Education, Judiciary, and Water, Parks & Wildlife Committees and served as Vice-Chairman to the the Human Services Committee.

While serving with the 82d Airborne Division during the Dominican Revolution in 1965, Collins volunteered for Vietnam where he first served as an artillery forward observer with an infantry company of the 1st Air Cavalry Division. During his second tour of duty, he was injured by a grenade in the Mekong Delta while a tactical commander of a Mobile Guerilla Force in the 5th Special Forces Group, better known as the Green Berets.

CALIFORNIA ASSEMBLYMAN B.T. COLLINS

(Continued)

B.T. Collins survived 19 surgeries in seven military hospitals over the course of 22 months. He was medically retired as a Captain in December, 1968. A 1970 graduate of Santa Clara University, Collins received his law degree in 1973 from the University's School of Law.

California Governor George Deukmejian's appointed Collins to the California Vietnam Veterans Memorial Commission where he served as the Fundraising Chairman. He also served on Governor Deukmejian's California Commission on Educational Quality. Collins served on the Naval Post Graduate Advisory Committee having been appointed by former Secretary of the Navy, James Webb and was a member of the Veterans Administration Advisory Committee on the Readjustment of Vietnam Veterans.

B.T. Collins has been the subject of four national documentaries. In June 1987 his return to Vietnam with Stan Atkinson of Sacramento Radio Station KCRA resulted in the award-winning documentary "Return To Vietnam" produced by NBC.

B.T. Collins has been described in six books, including "Battles In The Monsoons" by S.L.A. Marshall published in 1969. He has been the subject of numerous articles and columns in daily newspapers and periodicals. (Exhibit D).

B.T. Collins served as a member of the Board of Regents, Santa Clara University. He was a staunch supporter of WEAVE (Women Escaping a Violent Environment) and served on their Board of Directors and their Advisory Board.

Awards received by B.T. Collins are listed in Exhibit E.

B.T. Collins was only 52 when he died of a heart attack while still serving in the California Assembly. During his short life he rendered outstanding service to his country both as a soldier and as a statesman.

B. T. COLLINS

1968 - 1975

- 1968 - 1970** *Student, Santa Clara University, Santa Clara, California.*
- 1970** *BS Degree, History, Santa Clara University, Santa Clara, California.*
- 1973** *Doctor of Jurisprudence, Santa Clara University School of Law, Santa Clara, California.*
- 1974** *Member, California State Bar*
- 1974** *Emerson & Collins Law Firm, San Jose, California.*
- 1974 - 1975** *Placement Director, Santa Clara University, Santa Clara, California.*

B. T. COLLINS

1976 - 1993

Jan 1976 - Jan 1979 Deputy Legislative Secretary to California Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr., Sacramento, California.

Jan 1979 - Oct 1981 Director, California Conservation Corps; a work ethic program employing 2000 women and men, ages 18 to 23, in state public service conservation projects.

Oct 1981 - Jan 1983 Executive Secretary and Chief of Staff to California Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr., Sacramento, California.

Apr 1983 - Jan 1989 Vice President, Public Finance Department, Kidder, Peabody & Co. - Investment Banking.

Feb 1989 - Jan 1991 Chief Deputy State Treasurer, State of California, Sacramento, California.

Mar 1991 - Jul 1991 Director, California Youth Authority, State of California, Sacramento, California.

Sep 1991 - Mar 1993 Member, California State Assembly, Fifth District, Sacramento, California.

B.T.COLLINS

Documentaries and Publications

Documentaries: B.T.Collins was the subject of four (4) national documentaries, the most notable being "Return to Vietnam" produced by NBC and Stan Atkinson of Sacramento's KCRA News broadcast in August 1987.

Books: Six (6) books have been published that contain excerpts describing B.T.Collin's Vietnam experience; recovery from wounds; education; and political successes. His combat experience in Vietnam is generously described in the book, "Battles in the Monsoon", by S.L.A.Marshall.

Newspaper Articles: B.T.Collins has been the subject of more than 400 articles , too many to list here, including:

Wall Street Journal	Paris Herald tribune
Manchester Guardian	Bangkok Post
China News	London Times
Oakland tribune	Los Angeles Times
San Francisco Chronicle	Sacramento Bee

Periodicals: B.T.Collins has been the subject of articles in numerous magazines and journals including:

Readers Digest	People Magazine
California Magazine	California Journal

DECORATIONS & AWARDS
Brien Thomas Collins

MEDALS, DECORATIONS & BADGES

BRONZE STAR MEDAL w/ 3 CLUSTERS + 1 "V" DEVICE

PURPLE HEART

AIR MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL (Dominican Republic)

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

MASTER PARACHUTIST BADGE

THE B. T. COLLINS US ARMY RESERVE CENTER

Sacramento, California



Exhibit F

THE B. T. COLLINS US ARMY RESERVE CENTER Sacramento, California



Exhibit F

THE B. T. COLLINS JUVENILE CENTER
9601 Kiefer Boulevard, Sacramento, California



Exhibit G: An extensive pictorial display with accompanying first-person remarks in the center's entrance memorializes CPT B.T. Collins USA RET.



B.T. COLLINS

1940 - 1993

"IS THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE BECAUSE YOU WERE HERE?"
"DID YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE?"

BORN OCTOBER 17, 1940, IN MT. VERNON, NEW YORK, BRIAN THOMAS COLLINS WAS A HIGHLY RECOGNIZED INDIVIDUAL WHO MADE A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND ON OUR REGIONAL AND LOCAL COMMUNITY. COLLINS SERVED OUR COUNTRY FROM 1963-1968 AS A MEMBER OF THE U.S. ARMY AS A GREEN BERET, WHO EARNED HIS PURPLE HEART IN VIETNAM. B. T. SURVIVED 19 SURGERIES OVER THE COURSE OF 22 MONTHS, AND WAS MEDICALLY RETIRED AS A CAPTAIN IN DECEMBER 1968. AFTER PRACTICING LAW, HE TOOK A POSITION AT HIS ALMA MATER, AS PLACEMENT DIRECTOR OF SANTA CLARA UNIVERSITY. IN 1976, B.T. CAME TO SACRAMENTO SERVING AS DEPUTY LEGISLATIVE SECRETARY, AND EVENTUALLY, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY AND CHIEF OF STAFF TO GOVERNOR EDMUND G. BROWN JR. IN ADDITION, COLLINS SERVED IN SUCH CAPACITIES AS DIRECTOR OF THE CALIFORNIA CONSERVATION CORPS (1979-1981), VICE PRESIDENT FOR THE BANKING FIRM OF KIDDER, PEABODY, AND CO. (1983-1989), AND CHIEF DEPUTY STATE TREASURER (1989-1991). IN SEPTEMBER 1991, COLLINS WAS ELECTED AS STATE ASSEMBLYMAN OF THE 5TH DISTRICT, WHICH HE FULFILLED UNTIL HIS DEATH IN 1993. HIS INVOLVEMENTS IN OTHER ORGANIZATIONS INCLUDE:

- W.E.A.V.E (WOMEN ESCAPING A VIOLENT ENVIRONMENT)
- CALIFORNIA YOUTH AUTHORITY
- CALIFORNIA COMMISSION ON EDUCATIONAL QUALITY
- NAVAL POST GRADUATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
- CALIFORNIA VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMISSION
- C.O.R.O., NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
- VETERANS ADMINISTRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE READJUSTMENT OF VIETNAM VETERANS
- AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY-SACRAMENTO/AMADOR CHAPTER
- BOARD OF REGENTS, SANTA CLARA UNIVERSITY
- STATE ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES ON: HUMAN SERVICES, PARKS & WILDLIFE, EDUCATION, JUDICIARY, AND WATER

IN SERVICE TO THE CITY OF FOLSOM AS ASSEMBLYMAN OF THE 5TH DISTRICT, COLLINS VIGOROUSLY REPRESENTED THE CITY ON ISSUES SUCH AS INTEL'S EXPANSION IN 1993 AND THE AMERICAN RIVER BRIDGE AT LAKE NATOMA.

CITY COUNCIL

MAYOR: STEVE MIKLOS

VICE MAYOR: REGGIE DREW
ROBERT G. HOLDERNESS
TOM ACEITUNO
GLENN A. FAIT

RESOLUTION NO. 4016
APPROVED MAY 11, 1993

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

CHAIR: ROBERT GIACOMETTI

VICE CHAIR: CAROL O'CALLAGHAN
DON BERGST
PHIL SCOTT
WILL KEMPTON
RICHARD GRAY
BARBARA LEARY

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

CITY MANAGER: MICHAEL FROST

ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER: DOUGLAS UDELL
PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR: TARRY SMITH
PROJECT MANAGER: CRAIG SMITH
CONTRACTOR: CALIFORNIA LANDSCAPE
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT: THE SPINK CORPORATION