

BIOGRAPHY OF JAMES A ADAMS' MILITARY CAREER



James (Jimmy) Adams grew up on Linden Street in Ludlow, Kentucky and attended Ludlow schools. On his 17th birthday, August 1959, he joined the United States Army and served 27 years active duty before retiring in August 1986 as a Chief Warrant Officer Four (CW4).

For his first seven years in the Army, he was an Enlisted Soldier and became Airborne and Special Forces Qualified (Green Beret) in 1963. He graduated Flight School in 1967 and became an Army Aviator/Warrant Officer. As an Army Helicopter Pilot. He also attended Fixed Wing Training (Airplanes), thus becoming a Dual Rated Aviator. He later became an Instructor Pilot, Instrument Flight Examiner, Flight Check Pilot, Maintenance Test Pilot, Air Traffic Control Facility Manager, and Supply Logistics Manager and a Safety Manager.

Most of his stateside duties were served in the Washington DC area and Fort Bragg, North Carolina. Much of his military active duty was spent attending various training courses including career development courses as well as attending the University of Tampa to obtain a Degree in Business Administration. James spent a great deal of time training with the FAA and became the Army's first fully qualified Army Flight Check Pilot. During a flight training class in St. Louis, Missouri, in 1979, he met his future wife, Rebecca. They were married in 1983 and have three children and four grandchildren and are expecting two more grandchildren any day!

Overseas tours included a tour in France in 1961-1962; two tours in the Republic of Vietnam (1967-1968) as a Helicopter Gunship Pilot, (1969-1970) as an Airplane Reconnaissance Pilot. Two tours in Korea (1974-1975) and (1982-1983) as a Flight Instructor and Airfield Commander. James also served a tour in Saudi Arabia in 1979.

Chief Warrant Officer Adams' awards Included:

Distinguished Flying Cross for Heroism in Aerial Combat

Distinguished Flying Cross, First Oak Leaf Cluster for Heroism in Aerial Combat

Bronze Star with "V" Device for Heroism in Ground Combat

Army Accommodation Medal with "V" Device for Heroism in Ground Combat

Army Air Medal, with 41 Oak Leaf Clusters

Army Legion of Merit

Joint Service Commendation Medal

Master Aviation Badge

Parachutists Badge

In 2009, James was inducted into the Ohio Military Hall of Fame and was awarded the "Ohio Medal of Valor" for Heroism in "Combat" Operations Against Hostile Forces of the United States of America.

After retiring from Active Duty, James was hired by the Army as a Department of the Army Civilian and served as the Aviation Safety Manager and Director of Safety for the XVIII Airborne Corps and Fort Bragg for a period of 12 years. He then went to Vicenza, Italy and served as the Safety Manager for the Southern European Task Force and 22 ASG where one of His primary duties was training soldiers of the 173rd Airborne Brigade, in Range Live Fire Operations, for deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan. After serving in Italy for 8 years, James retired and returned to Union, Kentucky where he and his family currently live.