



LTC (Ret) Arthur J. Bland

September 19, 1948 - August 29, 2017

LTC (Ret) Arthur John Bland, son of the late Arthur Leonard and Josephine Fredricha (Kirchfennie) Bland, was born September 19, 1948 in Munich, Germany. He passed away Tuesday, August 29, 2017 in the Mercy Hospital of Springfield, Missouri having attained the age of 68 years, 11 months and 10 days.

Arthur grew up in Lompoc, California and graduated from high school. He furthered his education by attending Chico State and earned two Bachelor of Science Degrees, a Master's Degree and eventually his Doctorate.

Arthur was united in marriage to Kathy Jean "Missie" Friis. They shared many wonderful years together and were blessed with eleven children: Seth, Ashley, Cory, Kristin, Mariah, Sean, Hannah, Sarah, Logan, Carter and Cierra.

Arthur dedicated his life to the United States Military. He first entered the United States Navy and served from 1968 to 1972. He received the National Defense Service Medal and Vietnam Service Medal w/one Bronze Star and attained the rank of HM3. In 1973, Arthur entered the United States Army and served until his retirement in 2002. He had attained the rank of Lieutenant Colonel and earned several awards and commendations; which include: Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (3rd Award) Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal (2nd Award)

Army Achievement Medal, Presidential Unit Citation (Navy-Marine Corps), Army Superior Unit Award, National defense Service Medal (3rd Award), Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Armed Forces Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, NATO Medal, Overseas Service Ribbon (3rd Award), and the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross Unit Citation with Palm.

In his spare time, Arthur enjoyed reading, traveling and skiing. He loved his family and took great pride in providing for them.

Arthur leaves to cherish his memory, eleven children: Seth, Ashley, Cory, Kristin, Mariah, Sean, Hannah, Sarah, Logan, Carter and Cierra Bland; six grandchildren; two siblings; other relatives and friends.

In addition to his parents, Arthur was preceded in death by his wife, Missie Bland (October 27, 2004).

Services were held at 4:00 p.m. Tuesday, September 5, 2017 in the Memorial Chapels and Crematory of Waynesville / St. Robert with U.S. Chaplain Keith Ferrell officiating. The songs "American Soldier", "Wouldn't It Be Nice", "Take Me Home, Country Roads" and "Humble and Kind" were played. Military honors were provided by the United States Army of Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri.

Memorial contributions may be made in memory of Arthur Bland and may be left at the funeral home.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

SEP 5. 4:00 PM (CT)

Memorial Chapels and Crematory of Waynesville/St. Robert
202 Historic 66 W.
Waynesville, MO 65583
(573) 774-6111
memorialchapels@embarqmail.com

Tribute Wall



“ *Memorial Chapels and Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of LTC (Ret) Arthur J. Bland*



Memorial Chapels and Crematory - September 06, 2017 at 01:30 PM



“ *LTC (Ret) Arthur J. Bland*

January 28, 2023 at 06:53 AM

JF

“ Art Bland jammed a lot of smarts into the Majors strewn across the V Corps G3 Plans shop, squirreled away in the basement of Building 9 in Campbell Barracks, Heidelberg. I was one of those young Majors, 1996-97: we were full of stuff yet wholly unprepared for the many, many long days and nights fueled by coffee and pretzels during the early months of the dynamic, evolving US military involvement in the Balkans (specifically Bosnia-Herzegovina). He was smart, he was tough, he was a Soldier; he was a human leader with high expectations and non-negotiable (but fair) standards; he guided and coached and cajoled us; he taught us and took care of us and showed us how to “fly” on our own as confident plans officers and battle-staff leaders. His counsel to us and confidence in us were indispensable as we prepared for those white-binder trips to the “second floor” (Bell / Casey / Abrams). I learned more about SERVICE in nine months with Bland and Schifferle than I had in the ten years leading up to that assignment.

I say all that to say this: my nine-month workplace glimpse of the man serves as a window into the type of PERSON and FATHER and HUSBAND he must have been: generous (eleven children!); servant (Navy AND Army ... and eleven children!); faithful (wife, home, community, Nation); and steadfast (family, military, friends, mission). How very much he shall be missed! My sincere condolences to the family and to all of those who knew him well.

John Foster, Daphne AL

John Foster - January 28, 2018 at 11:05 AM



“ 48 files added to the album Life Tributes



Memorial Chapels and Crematory - September 05, 2017 at 02:00 PM

NA

“ Oh there are so many things about my uncle art . He was kinda quiet but he liked a good joke . He loved to say " well duh " ! He had a cheeky grin at times . He was strong kind hearted man . Some people don't know but him and my aunt played racket ball . I still have that scare from trying to pull out the ball from the can . Those damn cans had melt around them (like a soda can) He adored his wife my aunt Kathy . He loved his family so very much . He had many adventures as well . He will be greatly missed but I know he is with the love of his life my aunt Kathy . Together again.

nedra anderson - September 04, 2017 at 12:08 AM

PG

“ Pulaski County Camp Gideons lit a candle in memory of LTC (Ret) Arthur J. Bland



Pulaski County Camp Gideons - September 03, 2017 at 05:37 PM



Stephen
Kropelin

“ *Art, was a good friend and helped me out during my time of grief. He exemplified a person of giving. You watched over many while in your time of service and after as a contractor, may the Lord watch over you now.*

Stephen Kropelin - September 03, 2017 at 03:53 PM

PS

“ *My deepest condolences to everyone. Art was a fine officer, a dear friend, and a great Dad. He and I worked together in the busy days of deploying to Bosnia from Germany. He graciously volunteered to help us in the G3 Plans shop of V Corps when our work load threatened to break us all down. After my wife Sandy was hospitalized with a brain tumor right before Thanksgiving 1995, Art's cheerfulness, optimism, deep professionalism, and brilliant leadership of the Corps planning staff in my absence was essential to the success of the US mission to Bosnia. Art will be deeply missed.*

Peter J. Schifferle - September 02, 2017 at 12:39 PM



“ *Sorry to hear of your loss.. May you find strength in God, and each other, at this time. My thoughts and prayers are with the family of Mr. Bland...R.I.P.,*



Margaret De Vido - September 02, 2017 at 08:31 AM