



## SFC (Ret) Melvin Joseph Hagerty

November 4, 1934 - February 17, 2015

SFC (Ret) Melvin Joseph Hagerty, son of the late Louis and Madeline (Schmitt) Hagerty, was born November 4, 1934 in Epworth, Iowa. As a young boy, Melvin grew up on the family farm.

On February 13, 1956, Melvin entered the United States Army and served his country faithfully until his retirement on September 30, 1979 after 23 years of service. He had attained the rank of Sergeant First Class and earned several awards and commendations; some of which included: National Defense Service Medal, Bronze Star Medal (2nd Oak Leaf Cluster), Army Commendation Medal (2nd Oak Leaf Cluster), Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, Meritorious Unit Citation, Good Conduct Medal (5th Award), Expert Qualification Badge M16 and M14, Vietnam Service Medal w/ 2 Silver Service Stars and Vietnam Service Medal w/3 Bronze Service Stars. Five of his years of service were spent in the Vietnam War.

On April 27, 1972, Melvin was united in marriage to Phuong Thi Nguyen in Illinois. They shared over 42 years of marriage together and shared seven children: Jason, Jennifer, Jessica, Kim, Melvin, Deb and Patricia.

After retiring from the military, Melvin began working as a civilian on Fort Leonard Wood in 1982. At the age of 77, he was the second oldest working civilian on the post. He worked at the Engineer Warrant Officer Course. Melvin

retired as a DOD civilian at the age of 79 after 30yrs of service with a combined service of 53yrs

In his spare time, Melvin enjoyed being outdoors while mowing his lawn and driving his tractor. He also liked to watch westerns, but most importantly, he loved spending time with his grandchildren.

Melvin passed away Tuesday, February 17, 2015 in the Phelps County Regional Medical Center of Rolla, Missouri having attained the age of 80 years, 3 months and 13 days. He will be sadly missed by all those that knew and loved him.

Melvin leaves to cherish his memory, his wife: Phuong Hagerty of St. Robert, MO; six children: Jason Hagerty and wife Erica of Waynesville, MO, Jennifer Wallace and husband Michael of Villa Rica, GA, Jessica Reid and husband Danny of Laquey, MO, Kim Fisch and husband David of Dubuque, IA, Melvin J. Hagerty of Casper, WY, and Deb Hagerty of Sebastian, FL; eighteen grandchildren: Mason, Michaelyn, Wesley, Aiden, Kaleb, Kayla, Carol, Elijah, Scarlet, Kenneth, Kurt, Michael, Louis, JoAnna, Kris, Randi, Vince and Sam; eleven great grandchildren; other relatives and friends.

In addition to his parents, Melvin was preceded in death by his daughter, Patricia, son James David Hagerty and two grandchildren, Matthew and Isaiah Reid.

Graveside services with military honors were held at 1:00 p.m. Monday, February 23, 2015 in the Missouri Veterans Cemetery of Waynesville, Missouri with Pastor Larry Atkins and Chaplain Michael Roberts officiating. Serving as escorts and providing military honors were the United States Army of Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. Services were under the direction of Memorial Chapels and Crematory of Waynesville / St. Robert.



# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB **22**. 2:00 PM - 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

## Graveside Service

FEB **23**. 1:00 PM (CT)

Missouri Veterans Cemetery - Fort Leonard Wood  
25350 Hwy H  
Waynesville, MO 65583

# Tribute Wall



“ *SFC (Ret) Melvin Joseph Hagerty*

January 28, 2023 at 06:53 AM



“ *Top notch Instructor and note worthy professional.  
Rest in peace SFC you will be forever remembered.*

*CW3 (RET) William Ayotte*

**William Ayotte** - June 28, 2016 at 09:52 AM



“ *Michael And Crystal Mosier sent a virtual gift in  
memory of SFC (Ret) Melvin Joseph Hagerty*



**Michael and Crystal Mosier** - February 24, 2015 at 06:24 AM



“ *Jerome McNair lit a candle in memory of SFC  
(Ret) Melvin Joseph Hagerty*



**Jerome McNair** - February 23, 2015 at 02:08 PM

CP

“ CW3 William Petitt lit a candle in memory of SFC (Ret) Melvin Joseph Hagerty



CW3 William Petitt - February 23, 2015 at 01:54 PM

CC

“ RIP Mel Hagerty, you always displayed the utmost dedication and professionalism to soldiers and the nation. You have been an inspiration to many and your legacy will forever be remembered. May God comfort your family during this difficult time.

CW5 Darren L. Cook - February 23, 2015 at 01:32 PM

CH

“ My thoughts and prayers go to his Friends and Family. He was a great man, and I only hope to be half as knowledgable as he was. Rest in Peace SFC!

CW3 William Hovater - February 23, 2015 at 12:12 PM

CH

“ CW3 William Hovater lit a candle in memory of SFC (Ret) Melvin Joseph Hagerty



CW3 William Hovater - February 23, 2015 at 12:10 PM

CB

“ This weekend, I reflected back during my basic course and then again during my advance course. As I reflected these words describing Mel Hagerty kept coming back to me:

*Dedication*

*Caring*

*Excellent SME*

*Commitment Instructor*

*I had the pleasure to return to FLW, MO several times over the course of my career and always stopped in to see the training cadre. During those times I also had the pleasure to converse with Mel and many others responsible for WO training. My take away during those visits were moments of joy, gratitude, humility and over all being fortune to have committed instructors like Mel. Without his dedication, caring and commitment many of us would "NOT" of been technically prepare for our follow-on assignment.*

*My heartfelt and sincere condolence goes to his family. I only hope for this day of Mel's burial and final resting place that his family would know the thousands of lives that Mel touch making each and every one of them a better Warrant Officer.*

*Bill, if you get this and attending please let his family know the thousands of lives that Mel touch made every one of them a better Warrant Officer.*

*V/R*

*Jim Bandy*

*PM-MTV*

*Product Support Manager (PSM)*

*ATTN: SFAE-CSS-M, MS 500*

*Warren, MI 48397-5000*

*Office: 586.282.7486*

*B.B: 586.216.5285*

*Email: James.P.Bandy4.civ@mail.mil*

**CW5 (R) James Bandy** - February 23, 2015 at 09:42 AM

CD

“ *Mr. Hagerty was a great instructor and an outstanding person. I truly going to miss him, Rest in Peace.*

*CW3 Victor DeJesus  
Maintenance Branch Officer  
G4  
DSN: 484-7444  
cell: 151 46649298*

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**CW3 Victor DeJesus** - February 23, 2015 at 09:41 AM

CL

“ *Mel was certainly one of a kind. Very knowledgeable and always willing lend a hand. I had him as an instructor when I was there for WOBC and WOAC. He will be missed. If there is anyone close to his family, please express my condolences.*

*Respectfully,*

*Scott L. Lambert  
CW3, OD, USAR  
FSC, 458th EN BN  
(412) 370-1707 - Cell  
scott.l.lambert2.civ@mail.mil*

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**CW3 Scott Lambert** - February 23, 2015 at 09:39 AM

CS

“ *That is terrible, I hope his family is doing well. He will be missed. I still remember him him saying Sinker, you don't know shit! Loved that guy.*

*V/R Chief Sinker*

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**CW3 Kenneth Sinker** - February 23, 2015 at 09:38 AM

CP

*I remember him saying that to!*

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**CW3 William Petitt** - February 25, 2015 at 01:07 PM

CH

“ Sorry to heard this sad news, my heart goes out to everyone that was close to him. I have received some awesome instruction from him that has made me very successful in the field that many Soldiers have benefited from on deployments. This is owed to him for SME perfection. His legacy will live forever. God bless him, his family, those who knew him.

Chief Hurd

V/R

Christopher Hurd  
CW3, OD  
Maintenance Control Technician  
Bravo Company/168th BSB  
214th Fires BDE  
Fort Sill, OK  
Cell: 912-312-6749  
DSN: 580-442-4695

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**CW3 Christopher Hurd** - February 23, 2015 at 09:37 AM

CP

“ Mr. Hagerty was the most memorable instructor I've had in my 20 year career. While I was in WOAC in 2010, Mr. Hagerty received an award for 40 years of Federal Service. You can tell the impact someone has on your life by the number of conversations you've had about them when they are not around. Conversations of Mr. Hagerty always made me smile and typically included the phrase that "He would make your head hurt." To this day, I still reference his lessons to my Soldiers. May this great man rest in peace.

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**CW3 William L. Petitt** - February 23, 2015 at 09:13 AM

MS

“ *IN HONOR AND MEMORY OF HIS SERVICE  
TO OUR COUNTRY*

*MARLIN STEVENS*



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**MARLIN STEVENS** - February 23, 2015 at 07:21 AM

JC

“ *My sincere condolences to the Hagerty family. Mel was an inspiration to all of us. His passion for teaching and unwavering support to all the troops he taught had a huge positive impact on the career of so many of us. His legacy will live on. Thank you for everything you did for the Engineer Schoolhouse. I salute you SFC (Ret) Melvin Hagerty. R.I.P.*



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**Jose Marrero, CW5** - February 22, 2015 at 09:19 PM

DU

“ *It was a honor to work with Mel down at the PDB. My thoughts and prayers are with his Family.*

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**Donald Ungerecht** - February 22, 2015 at 08:41 PM

ME

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with the Hagerty Family.*



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**Michele Evans, FLW Thrift Shop employee** - February 22, 2015 at 01:31 PM

CC

“ *A true professional that educated so many of us!!! Thank you for touching so many lives and being such a caring person!!!*

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**CW4(R) Barry Carrington** - February 22, 2015 at 10:52 AM

W(

“ *William J. Roell, CW5 (R) lit a candle in memory of SFC (Ret) Melvin Joseph Hagerty*



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**William J. Roell, CW5 (R)** - February 22, 2015 at 06:23 AM

W(

“ There isn't an Engineer Maintenance; Enlisted Service Member, NCO or Engineer Warrant who could say that Mr. Hagerty has not affected their life. My first experience with Mr. Hagerty was when I was a 'young Soldier' and he was an instructor for my BNCO class back in 1988. I again had the privilege of having him as an instructor for my Warrant Officer Basic in 2000 and again for my Warrant Officer Advance Course in 2007. I remember more than once a Soldier would either email or call him from overseas about air conditioning and generator issues asking for his advice. If Mr. Hagerty didn't already have the answer in his head from years of experience he would then look at a schematic and sometimes within minutes tell the Soldier to check for grounds at this point, check what your voltage is at this relay, and within minutes from thousands of miles away he was able to help a Soldier in need who had been pulling out his hair trying to fix a generator or air conditioner. No one really knew Mr. Hagerty's age but then no one cared because no matter how old he was he always had something new to teach you every day. Yes he smoked too much, and maybe he did spend a lot of time at the school house with students, but I feel his contribution at Fort Leonard Wood has developed a generation (okay maybe a couple generations now) of skilled and more knowledgeable maintenance smart Soldiers because of the

*time God has allowed us to share Mr. Hagerty's time on this earth. I always looked forward to seeing him anytime I was at the school house and learning new things from him. Mr. Hagerty will be missed by thousands of Soldiers, civilians and I feel sorry for every Soldier who will never know what it was like to be taught by one of the greatest. My prayers go out to the family and friends of Mr. Hagerty as this now 'old Soldier', will miss him.*

*Marty*

*Martin A. Sutton  
CW4  
Ohio Army National Guard  
CSMS Inspection Section  
Supervisor  
O (614) 356-7978  
C (614) 746-6621*

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**William J. Roell, CW5 (R)** - February 22, 2015 at 06:21 AM

DK

“*Doug And Ok King lit a candle in memory of SFC (Ret) Melvin Joseph Hagerty*



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**Doug and Ok King** - February 20, 2015 at 06:37 PM

CG

“ *Mr. Hagerty was a true professional and will greatly be missed by all.* ”



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**CW3 Gozikowski** - February 20, 2015 at 06:36 PM

JP

“ *Julie & John Potter lit a candle in memory of SFC (Ret) Melvin Joseph Hagerty* ”



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**Julie & John Potter** - February 20, 2015 at 04:12 PM

JP

*Kim, Bud and Deb you and your families are in our thoughts and prayers.*

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**Julie & John Potter** - February 20, 2015 at 04:14 PM

CJ

“ *My condolences to the family and friends of SFC (Ret) Melvin J. Hagerty. He will be missed, RIP.* ”



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**CW3 Rincon J.** - February 20, 2015 at 03:28 PM



*“ Michael Hanking lit a candle in memory of SFC (Ret) Melvin Joseph Hagerty*



**Michael Hanking** - February 20, 2015 at 03:13 PM



*“ R.I.P. Mr. Hagerty. I must say hands down you've been one of the most influential instructors to the 919A Warrant Officer community. Thanks for all the dedication and knowledge you've passed on.*

**Michael Hanking** - February 20, 2015 at 03:02 PM



*“ Mr. Hagerty...RIP...you were always a patient and kind teacher. The 919A community is going to miss your charm and great stories.*

*It was a pleasure being a student in your class!*



**CW2 Smith** - February 20, 2015 at 02:07 PM



*“ R I P Mr Hagerty...you will be greatly missed by all you have touched through the years...*



**Dwayne Hawkins** - February 20, 2015 at 01:28 PM

LW

“ *Langston Washington lit a candle in memory of SFC (Ret) Melvin Joseph Hagerty*



Langston Washington - February 20, 2015 at 01:13 PM

CL

“ *CW2 Lewis lit a candle in memory of SFC (Ret) Melvin Joseph Hagerty*



CW2 Lewis - February 20, 2015 at 01:00 PM

CL

*Mr. Hagerty taught me alot about HVAC and Power Generation. Real professional. I enjoyed his class.*

CW2 Lewis - February 20, 2015 at 01:03 PM

LE

*My condolences to the Hagerty family. He taught me alot about HVAC in 2008 and 2014. You will be missed.*

Lennon - February 21, 2015 at 01:12 AM

LS

“ *Linda Schonbok lit a candle in memory of SFC (Ret) Melvin Joseph Hagerty*



Linda Schonbok - February 20, 2015 at 07:13 AM

BH

“ *BILL AND SHARON HAGERTY lit a candle in memory of SFC (Ret) Melvin Joseph Hagerty*



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**BILL AND SHARON HAGERTY** - February 19, 2015 at 11:21 PM