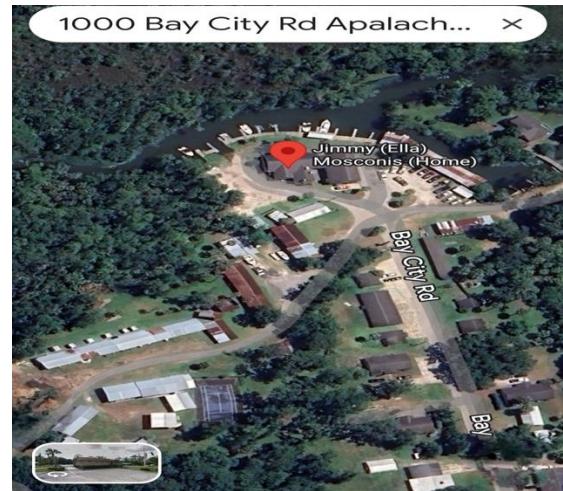


# HONORING JIMMY MOSCONIS

(SSG, US ARMY VET)-  
SOLDIER,  
STATESMAN, &  
BUSINESSMAN-  
WITH REVEILLE  
CERTIFICATE OF  
COMMENDATION



*Vietnam - 1969*



*Jimmy G. Mosconis*

## CITATION ACCOMPANYING SSG JIMMY MOSCONIS' (US ARMY) REVEILLE CERTIFICATE OF COMMENDATION

**Former U.S. Army Staff Sergeant and longtime Apalachicola resident JIMMY MOSCONIS distinguished himself as a Soldier, Statesman, and Businessman.** Born and raised in Apalachicola to parents Jim and Zelda Mosconis, his family thrived as both fishermen and shrimpers in Franklin County. Jimmy played football in high school and described himself as an otherwise free-spirited young man whose life was quickly changed by the 1964 draft lottery. He was influenced growing up by a generation of WWII family members, veterans, and friends who served. When he received his draft notice in 1968, Jimmy accepted it without reservation, believing that it was the right and patriotic thing to do. He recalls stories about the historic moment in local history when members of the Apalachicola community, including father and grandparents, sprang into action in July 1944 to rescue the members of the Empire Mica Tanker that was torpedoed by a German Submarine 25 miles off the coast. However, life quickly accelerated for him following his draft notice. He attended basic training as an infantryman at Ft Benning, GA, followed by Advanced Individual Training (AIT) at Ft Polk, LA, and was later returned to Ft Benning, where he was selected from among his peers to attend the Noncommissioned Officers School. After brief on-the-job training at an Alabama post, he was promoted to Staff Sergeant, E-6, and shipped out to Vietnam in November of 1968. There, he was assigned to the 199<sup>th</sup> Light Infantry Brigade and quickly rose to the ranks to become a Platoon Sergeant and acting Platoon Leader. His unit's mission was to provide outer perimeter security for the sprawling City of Saigon, the Capital of Vietnam at the time. On May 28, 1969, life, however, changed in a way that would impact not only him but the Franklin County community at large. While on a routine patrol in the jungle, Platoon Leader Jimmy Mosconis and his platoon were ambushed by enemy forces with an RPG (Rocket Propelled Grenade) exploding next to him and one of his soldiers, Private Jan Scruggs. During the attack, Jimmy, although wounded himself, provided life-saving assistance to Scruggs and another soldier who were more seriously wounded. And the rest, as they say, is history. This incident would lead to a lifelong friendship with Scruggs, which ultimately resulted in Apalachicola and Franklin County receiving the one-of-a-kind Three Servicemen Statue, which adorns Veterans Memorial Plaza on Market Street in Apalachicola. For his actions in combat, Jimmy was awarded a Purple Heart and a Bronze Star.

Returning home from the war, Jimmy recalls that he came back to a surprisingly welcoming homecoming with none of the noise of other big city protests that characterized other Vietnam Veterans' experiences. He went back to his old job at Port Saint Joe Papermill and worked multiple other jobs on the side to save money and build for the future. In 1974, he got his dream job by purchasing Bay City Lodge, a business decision that soon became an affair of the heart for over 51 years. Through the years, the lodge has been a sought-after place to stay in the Apalachicola, Franklin, and panhandle community, offering patrons an unmatched fishing and coastal living experience that has attracted many loyal clientele. Along the way, as a statesman, Jimmy continued his passion for serving others, successfully running for Franklin County Commissioner in 1978 and serving for more than 24 years. It was while he was Commissioner in 1998 that he met and married the lovely Ella Brown, a Tallahassee Civil Engineer who worked with him on a county landfill project, and she has been by his side ever since. During his time in office, he developed a reputation as a straight-talking, no-nonsense commissioner whose only interest was what was best for the people of Franklin County. Nowhere was the latter more perfectly illustrated than in his pursuit of and leadership of efforts to bring the Three Servicemen Statue to Franklin County. Or, as he describes, with a few dedicated friends on the Three Servicemen Statue, South NFP were able to "nickel and dime their way to \$1.2 million to bring the statue here." The statue by legendary artist Frederick Hart, cast from the same mold as the original in Washington, D.C., is singularly one of the most unique artistic works in North Florida. Attracting visitors from all over, the statue now stands as a permanent memorial, paying tribute to the blood, sweat, and tears of all veterans and their selfless service to the country.

**For his distinguished achievements in the US Military and Civilian Life, we recognize ARMY VETERAN, STAFF SERGEANT JIMMY MOSCONIS, with this VETERANS REVEILLE Certificate of Commendation. SSG MOSCONIS'S service is in keeping with the finest tradition of the Military. It reflects great credit upon himself, the United States Army, fellow Veterans, and the United States of America.**



# VETERANS' REVEILLE CERTIFICATE OF COMMENDATION IS AWARDED TO

**SSG JIMMY MOSCONIS, US ARMY Veteran**



**FOR EXTRAORDINARY SERVICE TO HIS COUNTRY!  
"WE FEW, WE HAPPY FEW... WE BAND OF BROTHERS"**

**DECEMBER 5, 2025**

*MARK A. SHIELDS*

**MARK SHIELDS**

**COMMANDER**

**AMERICAN LEGION POST 106<sup>TH</sup>**

*James Donald*

**JAMES DONALD**

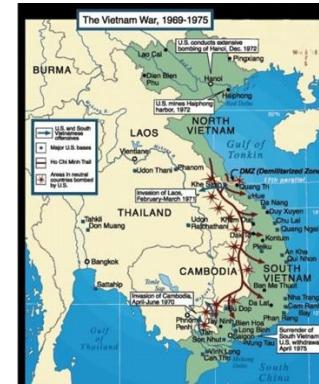
**MAJOR GENERAL, U.S. ARMY (RET)**

**CHAIR, VETERANS REVEILLE**





# HONORING JIMMY MOSCONIS (SSG, US ARMY VET)-SOLDIER, STATESMAN, & BUSINESSMAN- REVEILLE CERTIFICATE OF COMMENDATION



Vietnam - 1969



Jimmy G. Mosconis







1000 Bay City Rd Apalach... X



## The Vietnam War, 1969-1975

