



Maj. Edward I Carroll:

Although, we provided an obituary for “Taps” in this edition, I wanted to provide additional information about Maj. Ed Carroll in our Chapter Activity section. This military obituary was written by his son Benjamin Carroll and read at Ed’s internment ceremony in California:

Maj. Edward I. Carroll enlisted in the US Army Reserves June 13, 1966 in Los Angeles, California. He completed Basic Training at Fort Bliss, TX., and had AIT at the Engineering School at Fort Leonard Wood, MO. . In late 1966, he was selected for Officer Candidate School. He was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the Corp. of Engineers on 05/27/1967. Following his commissioning, he attended flight school at Fort Wolters, TX and advanced training at Fort Rucker, AL, graduating Class 68-10. Now a 1st Lieutenant Ed Carroll was stationed at Fort Carson, Colorado where he was Company Commander of the HHC of the 20th Aviation Battalion.

In December of 1968, he received orders for Vietnam, arriving in-country in January 1969. For the first part of his tour he flew Hueys with Company A, 9th Aviation Battalion, 9th Infantry Division (the Jayhawks). In May, 1969, He requested a transfer to the 2nd Brigade, 9th Infantry Division flying OH-6’s and commanding Army aviation assets with the Mobile Riverine Force’s operating in the Mekong Delta. He was promoted to Captain and was assigned as Section Commander flying OH-6’s and assigned the call sign of Cyclops 6. During this time he was shot down twice, receiving The Distinguished flying cross on both occasions.

He left Vietnam a highly decorated Combat Aviator: In addition to the usual Vietnam awards Maj. Carroll received:

2-DFC’s, 2-Bronze Stars, 1-Purple Heart, 14-Air Medals w/V-Device, 1-Army Commendation Medal, 1-Navy Commendation Medal w/V-Device, A Meritorious Unit Citation and a Vietnam Civil Actions Unit Citation.

Upon returning to the states, he taught aviation safety at the Engineer Officer School located at Fort Belvoir, Virginia through 1970, earning an Army Commendation Medal for his excellence in training Engineers in Combat Aviation. In early 1971 he met and married Barbara while attending aviation safety courses at University of Southern California. By late April 1971 he was stationed in South Korea with his new wife as the Aviation Safety Officer with the HHC, 2nd Aviation Battalion, 2nd Infantry Division. By 1972 he was the G-3 Aviation Safety Officer at the 8th Army Headquarters.

While attending the Engineer Officer Advanced Course at Fort Belvoir, Hurricane Agnes made landfall across the East Coast. Captain Carroll volunteered and was sent to Elmira, New York where he commanded the USACE support efforts for disaster relief and clean up. For his excellent command he was awarded yet another Army Commendation Medal.

After finishing the Engineer Officer Advanced Course, Captain Carroll was discharged from Active Duty and sent to the US Army Reserves. He earned his bachelor degree from Embry Riddle Aeronautical University in Aerospace Engineering in 1974. In early 1975 he was assigned as the Engineer Maintenance Officer with the 663rd Engineer Company in Bell, California, and then Commanding Officer of the 663rd by the end of 1975.

In June 1976, Captain Carroll graduated with a Master's Degree in Aviation Safety from USC and in October was assigned as Commanding Officer of the 728th Transportation Company located at Camp Pendleton, California. This was one of his favorite commands, earning an Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal for his excellent command. In 1979 he was on assignment with the 63rd Reserve Command, and promoted to Major. Major Carroll retired from the 311th Sustainment Command with 30-years of Military Service in 1996.

While in the Reserve, and after getting his Master degree, Major Carroll started a civilian career with General Dynamics. His first project with General Dynamic was the Cruise Missile program. He ultimately had a 30-year civilian career which included Hughes Helicopters/McDonnell Douglas/Boeing where He proudly supported the Apache Helicopter program, retiring as Chief Engineer in 2014.

In retirement Ed became a member of the Army Aviation Heritage Foundation Foundation in Mesa, AZ. He was an instrumental resource to them. He became a liaison between our Chapter and the AAHF. The AAHF under the leadership of Dave Sales provided a Memorial Flyby for Ed this past December.

Major Edward I. Carroll passed away in December 5, 2025 at age 79. He is survived by his wife Barbara, his son Jason and his wife Barbara, his son Michael, and his son Benjamin and his wife Elizabeth, and his grandchildren Rebecca, Danielle, and Jacob. His memory is a blessing to all who knew him.

By Benjamin Carroll