

Richard (Dick) D. Benjamin

Richard D. Benjamin, 78, passed away Sunday, January 12, 2020 (just one day after his 78th birthday at Hope Hospice in Bonita Springs, Florida, suffering from PSP.

A Memorial Service was held in the Hope Hospice Chapel in Bonita Springs, Florida on January 17, 2020.

Dick was born in Kansas City Missouri on January 11, 1942, the son of Buena and William Benjamin. He married Elisabeth Becker on May 20, 1977, in Gelnhausen Germany.

He is survived by his wife Elisabeth, his sister Deanna Schuyler , his nephew Michael Frilot and his niece Dawn Dowling.

...see below his Military time.....

After his Military time Dick has served 16 more years as a DOD Civilian and held the positions as the Deputy to the Commander of the 98th Area Support Group in Wuerzburg Germany; Advisor to the Commander for Sustaining Base Operations, U.S. Southern Command in Miami, Florida; and last position was also Advisor to the Commander for Sustaining Base Operations at U.S. AFRICOM in Stuttgart, Germany , where he retired as a SES in 2009.

After retirement he lived with his wife during the Winter times in Bonita Springs, Florida and during Summer in Gelnhausen, Germany.

Mr. Benjamin served over 33 years in the U.S. army. He entered the service as an enlisted soldier in January 1959 and was promoted to Warrant Officer through the Army Flight Program. He received a direct commission in 1965 while serving in Vietnam.

During his military career, Mr. Benjamin held a myriad of military assignments, which included: Infantry Paratrooper in Fort Campbell, Kentucky; attack helicopter pilot and Aviation Section Commander in the Republic of Vietnam; Company Commander, 8th Infantry Division, Bad Kreuznach, Germany; Battalion S-4, 1-48 Infantry Battalion and Aviation Section Commander, 3d Brigade, 3d Armored Division; Professor of Military Science, Stetson University in Deland, Florida; Executive Officer and Battalion S3 for 7th ATC in Wildflecken; Director of Personnel and Community Activities for the 543d Area Support Group in Bremerhaven, Germany; Commander, United States Military Activity, Aschaffenburg, Germany; and Commander, Aschaffenburg Base Support Battalion; and Deputy Garrison Manager, 98th Area Support Group, US Army Garrison, Franconia, Germany.

His military and civilian schooling includes: Infantry Officers Advanced Course; a Bachelors degree from Embry Riddle Aeronautical University; a Masters degree from Boston University; and he is a Graduate of the Air and Command Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Alabama.

His awards and decorations include: the Legion of Merit, two Distinguished Flying Crosses, the Bronze star, three Meritorious Service Medals, the Air Medal for Valor, thirty-one Air Medals, three Army Commendation Medals, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal, the Army Good Conduct Medal, two National Defense Service Medals, eight Vietnamese Service Medals, the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, the Army Service Ribbon, the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross w/palm and w/bronze star, the Vietnamese Staff Medal, the Senior Parachutist badge, the Senior Aviator badge and the Army Ranger tab. He retired from the Army in 1992 as a Lieutenant Colonel.

