



JOHN DELAVAN BAINES

U.S. NAVY SEABEES: Mobile Construction Battalions - MCB-11, MCB-3, RMCB-22
SEABEE STAT TEAMS - #1114 and #316
TOURS OF DUTY: REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM - Quang Tri, Dong Ha, Cam Lo, My Chanh & the "Rock Pile"
TOURS OF DUTY: US Trust Territories - Truk Atoll (Truk Islands); Guam (Mariana Islands); Majuro, Kwajalein & Eniwetok (Marshall Islands) 1966-1972

Awards & Honors

- *On February 17th, 1969, Texas Lieutenant Governor Ben Barnes addressed a joint session of the Senate and House of Representatives to introduce a Senate Resolution recognizing Mr. Baines for his distinguished service in Vietnam.
- * February 17th, 1969, Texas Governor Preston Smith honored Mr. Baines with an appointment to Commissioned Admiral in the Texas Navy.
- *November 10th, 1981, President Ronald Reagan greeted Mr. Baines and a small contingent of Vietnam Veterans, at the White House, to announce the President's newly created Vietnam Veterans Leadership Program. Mr. Baines served as a co-chairman from 1981 to 1984.
- *During President George H. W. Bush's administration, Mr. Baines was nominated for an appointment to Assistant Secretary of the Navy. He was passed over in the final selection process, but was honored to have been nominated.
- *On December 4th, 1986, the Mayor, and City Council of San Antonio commended Mr. Baines for his "unselfish service and sacrifices for all veterans of our nation's conflicts, particularly those of the Vietnam War who shall always be remembered through your untiring efforts..." "The Mayor and City Council call to the attention of all citizens of San Antonio your very important contributions and hereby proclaim you as "Benefactor of the Community."
- *As a result of Mr. Baines personal invitation; On July 28th, 1987, General Alfred M. Gray (29th Commandant of the Marine Corps) was the keynote speaker at a ceremony to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the battle of Hill-881 South and the Khe Sanh hill fights.
- *On August 18th, 1988, Mr. Baines was honored by the United States Marine Corps at a Meritorious Mast for his efforts to create "Hill-881 South", San Antonio's Vietnam Veterans Memorial.
- *On September 2nd, 1988, Mr. Baines was an honored guest at the Commandant's House, Headquarters United States Marine Corps, Washington, DC. The following is an excerpt of a subsequent letter from the Commandant..."John, the dedication of San Antonio's Vietnam Veterans Memorial was a great day for Vietnam veterans and for America. Your dedicated professionalism and superior leadership made all of this happen. Your inspiring effort has earned the deepest respect of your Marine Corps, your Navy, of all the armed forces and from a grateful nation. Semper Paratus - Al Gray, 29th Commandant, United States Marine Corps."
- *Mr. Baines twice received recognition for the J.C. Penny Golden Rule Award as one of San Antonio's outstanding volunteers for his work on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.
- *On March 19th, 2022, The National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution honored John with their highest, most prestigious award; the DAR Medal of Honor. He received this award for his service to our great nation, forty-years of dedicated assistance to his fellow war veterans, and for overseeing the creation of one of our nation's most inspiring war memorials.

FOUNDER • VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL OF SAN ANTONIO