

**Gen Charles C. "Hondo" Campbell**

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**"Hondo"**

Family and Nation mourn the loss of retired General Charles Christopher "Hondo" Campbell, United States Army, who peacefully crossed over to reside in the kingdom of his Savior, on February 8, 2016 at the age of 67. General Campbell's legacy is one of a Christian Soldier and leader of character, obedient to his Army orders and his unyielding faith, and always known as doing more for others than himself.

Visitation is Sunday, February 21, 2016, from 5-7:00 PM at the Osborn Funeral Home; with funeral service on Monday, February 22, 2016 at 11:30 AM, at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Shreveport. General Campbell's interment at Arlington National Cemetery, with full military honors, is being scheduled for a later date.

Born in Santa Barbara, California on August 24, 1948, General Campbell spent his early years in Shreveport, attending local public schools before his eighth grade matriculation to St. Stephens Episcopal School, Austin, Texas. Upon graduation, he attended [Louisiana State University \(LSU\)](#) in Baton Rouge, where he was an active member of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity. There General Campbell earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in History and was a Distinguished Military Graduate from the Army Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) program. His quest for learning continued throughout his military career. He received a Master of Military Art and Science Degree from the School of Advanced Military Studies, and culminated with graduation from the United States Army War College in 1991.

Following his passion for soldiering, General Campbell became a servant-leader by answering his Nation's call to duty. He was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Army in 1970. General Campbell's impressive and distinguished career consisted of attendance at numerous military schools and being awarded the Parachutist Badge, the Special Forces Tab and the coveted Green Beret. Early in his career during the [Vietnam War](#), the Army recognized and leveraged his tremendous ability to lead teams and mentor others. The Army assigned him to teach tactics at Forces Armee' National Khmère Training Command, Army Advisory Group, Phouc Tuy Training Battalion, U.S. Army, Vietnam. While in Vietnam, he also served as Special Forces A-Detachment Executive Officer and Detachment Commander. General Campbell commanded at every level to include a Combat Support Company in the 2nd Armored Division, Fort Hood, Texas; Armor Battalion in the 3rd Armored Division, U.S. Army Europe; a heavy brigade in the 2nd Infantry Division, Republic of Korea; Commanding General, 7th Infantry Division, Fort Carson, Colorado; and Commanding General, Eighth U.S. Army in the Republic of Korea.

General Campbell concluded his Army career as the Commanding General of United States Army Forces Command (FORSCOM), the Army's largest command, responsible for manning, training, and equipping more than 750,000 active, Army Reserve, and Army National Guard soldiers from January 2007 to June 2010. With his August 2010 retirement, at 40 years of active duty service, he was the last continuously serving commissioned officer who saw action in Vietnam—a chapter in the Army's legacy of the Vietnam War came to a close. Upon retirement, General Campbell returned to Shreveport, where he continued to selflessly serve, until his passing, as an Army Senior Mentor; coaching and teaching senior commanders in planning operations and deployments in support of the global war on terror, and in the defense of the Republic of Korea.

The list of General Campbell's military awards and decorations earned throughout his career is impressive. Most noteworthy are ones that held high personal value. These include the Omar N. Bradley "Spirit of Independence Award" in 2011; induction into the LSU Alumni Association Hall of Distinction, Distinguished Member in 2007; the LSU Cadets of the Ole War Skule Hall of Honor in 2004. In addition, he was featured as a Louisiana Legend in a documentary prepared by Louisiana Public Broadcasting while serving as a four-star General.

General Campbell often commented that one of his greatest honors was when the South Korea-U.S. Alliance Friendship Group gifted him with the name "Kim, Han Su." His Korean name means "the great defender and protector of Korean freedom and peace." General Campbell reserved a special place in his heart for the people of South Korea and especially General Paik Sun Yup, South Korea's greatest hero of the [Korean War](#). General Yup provided General Campbell with guidance and counsel that was invaluable to him during his many commands in Korea.

Preceding General Campbell in death are his parents Dr. James H. Campbell and Erena Witmer Campbell; his great nephew Jack Grimes (infant) and his great niece Bridget Anne Campbell (infant). He is survived by his beloved wife Dianne Yoho Campbell; his stepdaughter Shelli Christine Wessels and her two children Savannah and Campbell; his stepson Christopher Blake Wessels (Brandy) and their three children, Claire, Ryan, and Hailee; his sisters Daria

Campbell Grimes (Jim) and Matushka Deborah Campbell Connely (John); his brothers Jim Campbell (Mary) and Philip Campbell (Sue); his nephews James Grimes Jr. (Emma) and their son James Grimes; Garth Grimes (Laura) and their two sons Lex and Charles Grimes; his nephew James H. Campbell IV (Megan) and their three children Charlotte, Ryan and Witmer Campbell; and his niece Catherine Campbell Adams (Potter) and their two children Mary Michael and Campbell Adams, and several cousins. General Campbell is also survived by his sisters-in-law Sandra Yoho White (Danny); Linda Yoho Corbin (Dan); Deborah Yoho Howard (Tom); and his brothers-in-law Charles Yoho (Juanita) and Daniel Yoho (Leisa) and numerous nieces and nephews.

The Joint Readiness Training Center military ceremonial detachment, Fort Polk, Louisiana, is serving as pallbearers. Honorary pallbearers are Major General ([United States Marine Corps](#), Retired) William Bowdon III; Christopher Blake Wessels; James H. Campbell IV; James "Beau" Grimes Jr.; Garth Grimes; Robert Potter Adams; Seymour "Buck" Dear; John B. Johnson; Walter Clawson; Dr. Mike Holland; Mark Harrison and Trey Oliver.

The family extends special thanks to Dr. Igbal Singh, Dr. Scott Boniol, Dr. Susan Kemp, Dr. Kurt Kampert, and the physicians and caregivers at Christus Highland Medical Center and Christus Cancer Treatment Center and their respective staffs for loving care and support during General Campbell's illness. Special thanks, to the Christus Grace Home where General Campbell spent his final hours before passing.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested donations be made to "Homes for Our Troops." To donate online please go to: <http://www.hfotusa.org/support>; or by mail to 6 Main St Taunton, MA 02780.

When General Campbell was asked how he would like to be remembered he remarked, "It is my hope that in years to come when soldiers gather around the watch fire - and as soldiers are apt to do - speak of past battles and old comrades - they will say of me that he was a soldier who never shirked a duty, was cheerful in all weathers, endured the rigors of the campaign trail without complaint - that he was a soldier, he stood in the "vanguard" and never sought the safety of the "interior rank" - that he was a soldier who fought the good fight, who finished the race, and who kept the faith."

#### **Funeral Home**

##### **Osborn Funeral Home - Shreveport**

3631 Southern Avenue Shreveport, LA 71104

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