



## COL Lucious E. "Ed" Delk

October 19, 1946 - April 12, 2019

Colonel Lucious Edmond "Ed" Delk, 72, of Birmingham, AL passed away peacefully on April 12, 2019.

COL Delk was born on October 19, 1946 in Waycross, GA. He joined the Army in September 1966 and retired June 1994. His U.S. Army military education and qualifications include Airborne (October 1968), Special Forces (June 1969), Ranger (March 1972), Infantry Officer Advanced Course (September 1972), Command and General Staff College (May 1978) and U.S. Army War College (May 1986). His military decorations include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star with Valor, Purple Heart, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal and many others. COL Delk's commands include the 709th Military Police Battalion and the 18th Military Police Brigade. He retired as the Assistant Commandant of the U.S. Army Military Police School. COL Delk served two tours in Vietnam, one tour in Operation Provide Comfort and seven years as a paramilitary civilian executive in East Timor and Iraq with Dyncorp International.

Ed Delk was a loving husband, father, grandfather, brother and uncle. He was preceded in death by Sue, his beloved wife of 47 years, and his daughter Elizabeth Carly. He is survived by his son Jonathan (Britt) Delk of Birmingham, Alabama; grandchildren Holden, Eloise and Henry Delk; sister Sally McDonald of Willacoochee, GA; brother W.L. Delk of Opp, AL; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held 11:30 a.m. on Friday, May 31, 2019, at the

Kreamer & Lum Funeral Home & Crematory, 5 Camp Meeting Rd.,  
Jonestown. A visitation will be held one hour prior to the service. Inurnment  
will follow at Indiantown Gap National Cemetery, E. Hanover Twp.

# Cemetery Details

## Indiantown Gap National Cemetery

Indiantown Gap Road  
Anville, PA 17003

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY **31**. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

Kreamer & Lum Funeral Home & Crematory  
5 Campmeeting Road  
Jonestown, PA 17038

## Memorial Service

MAY **31**. 11:30 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Kreamer & Lum Funeral Home & Crematory  
5 Campmeeting Road  
Jonestown, PA 17038  
(717) 865-5215

# Tribute Wall

HN

“ My memory of Col. Dell comes from East Timor where we often met. Once we flew to Bali together on our way home to our respective homes in USA and Europe. As we sat outside the airport in Bali, Col. Dell introduced me to some very hot McDonalds chicken drumsticks and I got hold of the Bintang Beers. Col. Dell was a great man, a good friend and highly professional. Warm thoughts to all family and friends. Rest in peace, Sir!

Henrik Nielsen - November 15, 2025 at 06:19 PM

AH

“ Colonel: We crossed paths when your beloved wife Sue passed away and you had called on the funeral home I was working at in Hoover, AL. The amount of time we spent talking on the phone, planning, talking, rehearsing, and more than anything hearing your soul and your heart reflecting about your wife. I was honored and privileged to have known you and your family. I thank God for your service to our country and your example you led during your career. Oddly enough, I saw you passed away and were cared for at a funeral home in PA. I actually live in Western PA and I own a funeral home of my own. I think of you fondly and I appreciate your kind words you shared with me via Facebook messenger 2-3 years before your death. Sir, it was an honor to know you and to have crossed paths with a man like you. Good Speed Sir. Until We meet again. ----Adam C Hyde.

Adam C Hyde - October 21, 2025 at 10:14 PM

SM

“ with God, but not forgotten- "for the tropps", "709"/"709" Useurer Champion 1984

steve m - January 14, 2025 at 02:12 PM

DB

“ This is my memory respectfully, Captain Delk was my Unit Commander in Basic training in 1974. Every drill sergeant was a minimum two-tour Vietnam warfighters. My training was intense.

*Here is my vision of the commander, I never had reason to speak to him one on one.*

*As a child I grew up watching the TV show "Combat" and "12 O'clock High" I was very familiar with war and death. I played with GI JOE and had one with a Kung Fu grip.*

*When I arrived at Ft. Dix and finally saw the unit commander I was so astonished that he looked so similar to GI JOE!*

*Commander Delk was strap, tight as a drum, a perfect soldier, a perfect leader, a perfect model of what a soldier should be and I instantly took to his model. As I observed him, he appeared to me to be tireless, every time I saw him, everything in his uniform shouted be a perfect soldier, I can do it, you can do it, and I tried, and tried hard.*

*Now that I think of it, since that time, about two weeks in we had a forced 20 mile march.*

*The boots that were given to me, had the leather bend inward and rubbed against my ankle and it caused me deep pain, excruciating pain, especially during that march.*

*While we were marching up the roadway commander Delk would walk back to the end of the formation and march back to the front, and as I observed him I swear, I didn't see a bead of sweat, I was dumbfounded. I isolated my pain and it was no longer a concern.*

*My father was not a nice man, he berated me once citing that you walk around here all majestic, as it was supposed to be a criticism for standing up straight and having correct posture is something bad. I ignored him. Commander Delk was my guide in my life, I could never be less than I saw who he was, and I was one of his trainees and I would never want to bring ill-repute to him as one of*

*his trainees. I have always sought to hold the ideals I believed he represented.*

*I ultimate served in the US Army attached to the NSA. I have a firm grasp of intelligence and it's principals regarding military operations. I mentioned this because I sought to want to speak to Commander Delk and I learned he was deep in the war in Iraq.*

*OK, so that's not going happen. Now here is where it gets weird, I learned the MP Unit Commander had changed, and so, I tried to find Commander Delk, at least to see how he was doing. I could not find a single thing, very little information on him was available. I am a research wonk and I could not find a thing. I had to forget finding anything. So, today I wanted to see how he is doing and now see he has passed.*

*I write this now with tears in my eyes, I cannot use the word love, he was my commander, I gave him my entire respect, and was in awe of him at every sighting, the profound effect he had on my life cannot be fathomed. I thank the lord I am fortunate to have had him as a leader for me as I learned so much from him and his unit sergeants.*

*So, I stand at attention, and salute my commander for the last time. God bless him and God rest his soul, for to me, he was the greatest military commander I ever had the privilege to serve under.*

*Pvt. D. Beecham Delta Demon*

*DELTA DEMONS CREDO*

*We are rough, we are tough, we are mean, we are lean*

*Above all the rest, we are the best, if you can't do it, lead us to it*

*We can hold sir, we can hold!*

*Farewell Commander*

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**Daryl Beecham** - April 03, 2020 at 09:30 AM

GM

“ *The Colonel had a soul of Gold. He gave me advise & guidance when I needed it most. He came down late at night, every night, to see if anyone was still up, or wanted to just talk at the Baghdad Hotel. I was one of those he mentored. He was, and is, loved by those who knew him. Rest In Peace, Ed !*

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**Greg Musgrave** - June 01, 2019 at 10:52 PM

AC

“ I knew Col. Delk as Papa 1 in Iraq...He was the senior man for CIVPOL in Iraq...Papa-1 was third highest ranking civilian in Iraq...His title was Vice President of Iraq and the prime principle/client for the Shark Teams...Col. Delk was considered the Father of the Shark Teams...I was on Shark Team 5 and had the pleasure of providing close protection to a man who needs no close protection (oxymoron).

*Myself and Ed Ford wrote a book titled "The Pony Express" and requested Col. Delk to review the manuscript...He read our manuscript and provided this endorsement just a few weeks before his passing:*

*"We often take for granted that which most deserves our gratitude."  
Cynthia Ozick*

*Focusing on a brief three-year period in Afghanistan, The Pony Express accurately, and brilliantly portrays the functions, tactics, techniques, and procedures employed by these incredible security and force protection contractors in both of the most lethal environments of this century—Iraq and Afghanistan. Charged with missions in areas where the shrinking military lacked the manpower to operate, these heroic contractors served our Nation with extraordinary pride and distinction, while largely ignored by the media, without acclaim for their courageous acts, and embracing the hope for but one reward—to return home safely. My compliments to the authors of this magnificent account, Edward Ford and Alan Chiasson.*

*Lucious E. (Ed) Delk  
Colonel, U.S. Army  
Retired*

*In addition to his testimony, Col. Delk is featured in Chapter 4 "Shark Teams"*

*I will never forget his mentorship...He was a Man among Men!*

*Respects, Chase*



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**Alan Chiasson** - May 31, 2019 at 01:41 PM

MC

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with all the family today as you lay your beloved Dad (and Granddad) to rest. May he be welcomed with great joy in Heaven by the Lord and by your Mom and your sister, Carly. Sincerely, Marie and Steve Curry*

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**Marie Curry** - May 31, 2019 at 01:35 PM

MR

“ *A true leader who would not ask a subordinate to do something that he would not be willing to do himself. Led by example. A strong warrior ethos, Thank you for your leadership, kindness and wisdom. May God bless you and Sue. Ever Vigilant!!*

*LTC (R) Mike Rauer, 18th MPBde*

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**Mike Rauer** - May 28, 2019 at 05:30 PM

ED

“ Col Delk (Dad) was a great man, a great leader, and equally important a great human being. His rough exterior hid a heart of gold. He demanded excellence of others and himself, while guiding you to the goal. Ed was soft spoken but had a roar if needed. He loved his family and those who truly knew him loved him. Rest now old warrior. We salute you.

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**Ed Deane** - May 28, 2019 at 08:37 AM

CH

“ I worked for Colonel Lucious E. Delk during the two years he served as the Assistant Commandant of the U.S. Army Military Police School at Fort McClellan, Alabama. In a calm, precise and soft spoken way, he showed the over 500 soldiers and civilians assigned to the school what true professionalism looked like and what was needed to perform the school's mission at the highest level. His mere presence commanded attention and his knowledge of his job and institution were encyclopedic. We, his subordinates, were awestruck by his mastery of every detail. I can say without hesitation that all of us who worked for Colonel Delk became better at our craft because of his strong leadership. COL (Ret) Charles F. Hurlbut

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**Charles F. Hurlbut** - May 01, 2019 at 12:31 AM

JB

“ Colonel Delk was a tough, professional soldier and leader. He was always determined to accomplish the mission and to get it right. I remember the time we served together at USAMPS (Fort McClellan) as being challenging and one in which we established a close and harmonious professional relationship. He treated me well and with respect. May God give him peace. My sincere condolences to all remaining family members.

*LTC James Burdick, US Army Retired*

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**James Burdick** - April 29, 2019 at 06:47 PM

SC

“ Ed Delk will be remembered for so many incredible accomplishments and for character traits that exude honor, integrity, courage and genius. But I urge everyone to remember him for his very special hallmark... he was truly a man with a heart of gold. There are many thousands of people who know exactly what I mean.... and he very often did it with anonymity and untraceable compassion. That is a lasting legacy. My dear friend of 39 years.

*BG Sal Chidichimo*

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**S. Chidichimo** - April 26, 2019 at 04:56 PM

JG

*I served under Col Delk in Frankfurt, Germany in the 709th MP Bn. I was a young soldier but clearly learned what being a good ment. He was tough but you knew he wanted perfection. I have so much respect for him. RIP COL DELK*

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**Johnny Garnett** - December 22, 2019 at 05:42 PM



*As a new enlistee in D-3-3, Ft. Dix, in 1974, I trained under COL (then CPT) Delk when he was with TRADOC as the CO of a company of basic trainees. He was my first commander, and one could immediately tell that he was the epitome of a leader. He left quite an impression, and I've never forgotten him. My deep respects to his family. RIP COL DELK  
MAJ (formerly E-1) Dan Gargel*

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**Dan Gargel** - March 18, 2020 at 11:13 AM



*Ed. In Frankfurt, and everywhere else in the Army and out, you were an example of all that is right and good in this world. Rest In Peace My Friend.*

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**Joel L Leson** - April 06, 2020 at 10:17 AM



*I was an E-2 when I was sent to Germany, 18th MP Brigade, to work as Col. Delk's secretary in Frankfurt. He was reserved, but fair. He was also compassionate. While in the hospital after my first surgery, he visited me in the hospital. He respected the men and women under his command. Although I was medically discharged as an E-4, he taught me of the importance of attention to detail. Rest in peace Sir.*

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**Deb Omsby Dixon** - October 16, 2022 at 04:13 PM



*Col Delk was my 709th MP Bn, 18th MP Bge and Asst Commandant during my 20 years service. He made us "Waarriors" by having us train against the 75th Rangers. We crossed the Rhien River in Germany with the Engineers, we won "Pig Bowls" flag football. He was a leader's leader and a man's man, a friend. No one was better! RIH.*

*Barry Oliver retired MP*

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**Barry** - March 05, 2025 at 10:47 PM