



BG (Ret) Elmus S. Ussery

Brigadier General Elmus S. Ussery began his illustrious military service at age sixteen as a cadet at North Texas Agricultural College (NATC) from 1944 to 1947 and is honored for his long and distinguished career in the Army Reserves and in civilian industry.

Born in Fort Worth, Texas in 1927, General Ussery graduated as Salutatorian in 1944 from Diamond Hill High School. He was the first graduate of his school to be honored by an Outstanding Alumnus Award from the Fort Worth Public School System. At NTAC he served as a First Sergeant.

General Ussery entered the Army as a Private in 1950 and served four years on active duty. He received his commission through the Armored Officers Candidate School at Fort Knox, Kentucky in 1952. He was Platoon Leader and Company Commander in the 13th Armored Infantry Battalion of the 3rd Armored Division. General Ussery left active military service in 1953 to return to college. He attended the University of Texas at Austin and received his degree in Economics in 1957. While in college, General Ussery joined the Army National Guard and served as Commander of the 36th Replacement Company, 36th Infantry Division. Later, as an officer in the Army Reserves, he served as Commander of the 168th Support Group, and Assistant to the Executive Director of Supply Operations at the Defense Logistics Agency, Washington, D.C. His last assignment before retirement was as Deputy Chief of Army Reserves at the Pentagon with the rank of Brigadier General.

General Ussery served the city of Louisville, Kentucky as President of the Ussery Corporation, a successful land developing and building business. He received "The Builder of the Year Award" from the Home Builders Association of Louisville, and "The Grand Award for Outstanding

Achievements," National Association of Home Builders. General Ussery has been elected to the highest office in the Army section of the Reserve Officers Association of the United States. He has held numerous advisory board positions, volunteering his time and expertise to professional associations, church and community projects throughout the United States and abroad.

He was a graduate of the Army War College (SRCOC), the Industrial College of Army Forces, Command and General Staff College, National Security Management Course, and many other military schools. His military decorations include the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster, Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service medal, Armed Forces Reserves Medal with Ten-Year Device and the Army Reserve Components Achievement medal with Oak Leaf Cluster.

From his beginning as a cadet at North Texas Agricultural College and throughout his adult life in his nation's community's service, General Ussery has provided an example to all future officer graduates from the campus of the University of Texas at Arlington, the Cadet Corps and the United States Army.

Obituary

USSERY, Brigadier General Elmus S., died Saturday, February 11, 2006, in Oaklawn Terrace after a long battle with pancreatic cancer. General Ussery was born in Fort Worth, TX, on October 4, 1927. He was a graduate of the University of Texas at Austin. He blended an Army and corporate career as president of the Ussery Corporation and Ussery Real Estate.

His 37 years of active Army and Reserve service culminated with his retirement as a Brigadier General at the Pentagon, serving as Deputy Chief of the Army Reserve. He was drafted during the Korean War and later received a Second Lieutenant commission at Fort Knox, KY, in 1952. The General earned many decorations, including the Legion of Merit.

General Ussery remained very active in Army associations. He received the Kentucky Distinguished Services Medal for his service on the Kentucky Commission on Military Affairs. He served as Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army, a coveted position. He was honored by the University of Texas at Arlington as a CCAC life member and was inducted into the Hall of Fame and named a Distinguished Alumni in 2003.

He served as president of the National Reserve Officers Association (ROA) Army Section in Washington, D.C., as well as president of local and state ROA organizations. He was honored to have Chapter 168 named for him. He was also president of TROA (The Retired Officers Association), Military Officers of World Wars (MOWW), and the Armed Forces Committee.

The General loved the camaraderie of service personnel, and many of his closest friends were from the service. He considered serving as a General in the Army of the United States to be one of his highest honors.

In his civilian career as a developer and builder, he built approximately 1,000 homes and developed 22 subdivisions. Always active in his industry professions and civic responsibilities, he served as president of the local Home Builders Association, the State Association, and as Senior Life Director of the National Association. He was a three-time recipient of the prestigious Builder of the Year Award, which has recently been renamed in his honor.

In civic involvement, he was president of the Executive Club and worked with KIPDA and the Housing Partnership. He served as president of the Louisville Board of Realtors and received its John Carpenter Award and the 2005 Realtor of the Year Award. He also served on the Louisville–Jefferson County Planning and Zoning Commission. He served a term on the DePaul School Board and with the American Cancer Society, and was a lifetime member of the Jaycees.

Overall, he served on a dozen boards, including six years on the First Bank Board. He was very proud to have served as president of the Louisville Rotary Club from 1995 to 1996. The General also served as an adjunct professor for five years at the University of Kentucky, Jefferson County. At one time, Gen. Ussery was a major stockholder in the Semonin Company.

In his early years, he was voted Outstanding Alumnus of Diamond Hill High School in Fort Worth, Texas, where he received an academic scholarship to Texas colleges. He lettered in four

sports. General Ussery was a lifetime member of the Salvation Army and served two years as its president. He received the Army's "Others" Award and was a member of Big Spring Country Club.

He is survived by his wonderful wife of 44 years, known by all as M.C. (Mona Catherine). In addition to his wife, survivors include a daughter, Kaki (Katherine), who serves as a missionary in France; and a son, W. Kent (a CPA), and his wife, Nicole, of Nashville, TN—all graduates of Vanderbilt University. He is also survived by a sister, Gaythal Tucker, of Fort Worth, TX, and her family; and a sister-in-law, Betty Kremer, and her family of Louisville.

The General was always proud of his family, his many close friends, relatives, and others. He was a member of Christ Church Methodist for over 30 years, where he served on the Administrative Board and chaired the Board of Trustees.

Funeral services will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday at Christ Church Methodist, 4614 Brownsboro Road. David Pearson, a close friend, and his company, Pearson Funeral Home, 149 Breckenridge Lane, will handle the funeral arrangements. Visitation will be from 2:00–4:00 p.m. and 6:00–8:00 p.m. on Tuesday at the funeral home. Burial will be in Cave Hill Cemetery.

The General was affiliated with many wonderful organizations. Any remembrances may be made to a charity of your choice, or to any of the charities the General believed in or was fortunate to support, as listed herein.