DISTINGUISHED MEMBER OF THE SPECIAL FORCES REGIMENT



SERGEANT MAJOR DAVID L. CLARK

Inducted 10 April 2008



Command Sgt. Maj. David L. Clark was born Jan. 12, 1930, in Norman Park, Ga. He enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1946 and retired in 1984 with 35 years of honorable active service.

Clark served in a variety of assignments and units around the world, including first sergeant, Long Range Patrol Company; team sergeant, 3rd Special Forces Group (Airborne); team sergeant, battalion sergeant major, 5th Special Forces Group; sergeant major, Specialized Techniques Training Department, military free-fall jumpmaster, static-line jumpmaster, Special Forces underwater operations instructor, John F. Kennedy Institute for Military Assistance; command sergeant major, 7th Special Forces Group; command sergeant major, John F. Kennedy Center for Military Assistance; command sergeant major, Rapid Deployment Joint Task Force; and command sergeant major, U.S. Central Command.

Clark's military education includes Military Free-Fall Parachutist Course, Military Free-Fall Jumpmaster Course, Special Forces Qualification Course, Combat Diver Qualification Course, Special Forces Operations and Intelligence Course.

His awards and decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal, Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, Combat Infantryman Badge, Expert Infantryman Badge, Parachutist and Master Parachutist Badge, HALO and HALO Jumpmaster Badge, Combat Diver Badge, Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with palm, and parachutist badges from 13 foreign countries.

Command Sgt. Maj. Clark has served as the Honorary Sergeant Major of the 1st Special Forces Regiment, and he currently serves as the senior Department of the Army Civilian Advisor to the Commanding General of the U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School. Including his enlisted time and work at the Special Warfare Center and School, Command Sergeant Major Clark has more than 56 years in combined federal service.

Command Sgt. Maj. Clark and his former wife, Betty (deceased), had six children (one deceased), 18 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. He is married to the former Sylvia McCarley, and they reside in Fayetteville, N.C.