

# DISTINGUISHED MEMBER OF THE SPECIAL FORCES REGIMENT



**MASTER SERGEANT  
HARVEY GORDON BRANDE**  
*U.S. Army, Posthumous*

Inducted April 26, 2024



Harvey Gordon Brande served in the United States Army three times. Born on Nov. 13, 1936, in California, Brande first enlisted in August 1954 at the age of 17 at Fort Knox, Kentucky.

In the first segment of his career, Brande served as a tank crewman at Fort Lewis, Washington. He then served as a tank driver, tank loader, and tank gunner at Fort Bragg (now Fort Liberty), North Carolina, before receiving an assignment to C Company, 370th Armored Infantry Battalion in West Germany from March 1957 to July 1958, marking the end of the first leg of his career.

In the second stage of Brande's career, he began serving as military police. During that time, his assignment was with the 515th Ordnance Company at White Sands Missile Range in New Mexico. He served from December 1958 to March 1962.

Brande's final enlistment allowed him to serve as a tank driver with the 10th Cavalry Regiment at Fort Ord, California, until he attended Medical Corpsman and Special Forces Aidman Training at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, and Special Forces Training at Fort Bragg (now Fort Liberty), North Carolina. He then served as a Special Forces medical specialist with 1st Special Forces Group, Okinawa, Japan, and with 3rd Special Forces Group, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

While deployed to South Vietnam as a Special Forces medical specialist on Feb. 7, 1968, Brande was captured and taken as a prisoner of war at Lang Vei. Eleven days later on Feb. 18, Brande escaped. However, he was recaptured seven days later on Feb. 25. After 1,865 days, more than five years, as a prisoner of war, Brande was released on March 16, 1973, during Operation Homecoming.

Brande received two Silver Stars and retired on Feb. 27, 1975, at Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

Brande's life of service and valor ended on Aug. 7, 2021.