

DISTINGUISHED MEMBER OF THE SPECIAL FORCES REGIMENT



**MAJOR GENERAL
VICTOR JOSEPH HUGO, JR.**
U.S. Army, Posthumous

Inducted April 26, 2024



With 33 years of service in the U.S. Army and his retirement years dedicated to supporting Special Forces efforts, Maj. Gen. Victor Hugo, Jr., lived a life of selfless service. Born in Massachusetts in 1931, Hugo graduated the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1954.

After completing basic officer, airborne, and Ranger training, Hugo's first assignment was as a Central Intelligence Agency case officer for unconventional warfare and paramilitary actions in Saigon. He served as a leader, interpreter, and translator for training missions for Vietnamese officers. He wrote and directed the training film Find 'Em, Fix 'Em, Fight 'Em.

When Hugo graduated from the Special Forces Qualification Course in 1962, he received an assignment to 1st Special Forces Group (Airborne) in Okinawa, Japan. This assignment took him on missions to Thailand, Korea, and Taiwan. He also conducted a rescue mission of a Royal Lao military commander from a jail and ensured his safety during four weeks of diplomatic talks.

Later in his career, while assigned to the Pentagon, Hugo was critical in establishing the United States Army Sergeants Major Academy. While there, he served as the Department of Army Headquarters point of contact for the commanding general of the United States Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School on Special Forces matters. Toward the end of his career, Hugo served as the commanding general of the 38th Air Defense Artillery Brigade in the Republic of Korea and the commanding general of the 32nd Army Air Defense Command in Germany.

Hugo was the recipient of the Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal (with oak leaf cluster), Purple Heart, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Service Medal (with three oak leaf clusters), Joint Service Commendation Medal, National Defense Service Medal, and Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal. He also received several medals, honors, and badges from Germany, Vietnam, and Saudi Arabia.

Upon retirement, Hugo founded the Special Forces Association Saudi Arabian Chapter and, eventually, served on the board of directors of the Special Forces Association National Capitol Chapter. He also served as the executive vice president, Office of Strategic Services Society, leading to the development, planning, and acquisition of land for the future National Museum of Intelligence and Special Operations. Hugo passed away at 89 in May 2020.