



Life Member: Cadet Corps Alumni Council
Hall of Honor Member since 1980

LT Gen. James F. Hollingsworth

Died—March 2, 2010

Retired Lt. Gen. James F. Hollingsworth was one of the most decorated military officer ever to come out of Texas A&M University and North Texas Agricultural College. A San Antonio resident for the past 18 years, Hollingsworth, 91, died Tuesday.

He was in the Army for 36 years and served during World War II, Korea and Vietnam. The three-time recipient of the Distinguished Service Cross also received four Distinguished Service Medals, four Silver Stars, three Legion of Merit medals, the Distinguished Flying Cross three times over, the Soldier's Medal, four Bronze Stars and a remarkable 38 Air Medals, among many others. Wounded in combat during World War II, Hollingsworth also received six Purple Hearts. He retired in 1976.

Hollingsworth, who started as a platoon leader in the Second Armored Division under Patton, rose to lead a regimental-size armored task force. Born in Sanger, just north of Denton, on the family farm, Hollingsworth was the oldest of four sons; his brothers followed him into the military. He was a wonderful man, said his wife, Janie Hollingsworth, who was his executive secretary at the Pentagon for a brief time. They were married for close to 20 years.

Gen. Hollingsworth wasn't just a soldier, said Dionel Avils, a Texas A&M University System regent. He was a warrior. He always took care of his troops. His service in Vietnam was probably his most distinguished. In that war, Hollingsworth defied orders not to defend U.S. troops from fire coming across the Cambodian border. He took responsibility for that decision. Later, the policy was reversed. He also was instrumental in the Battle of Saigon.

In World War II, he was involved in seven major campaigns from North Africa to Berlin. In Korea, he was the commanding general, reportedly leading the largest combat field army 13 divisions in the world. In 1980, UTA inducted him into the Military Science Hall of Honor and Texas A&M named him a Distinguished Alumnus. Fourteen year later, he was inducted into the Corps of Cadets Hall of Honor at A&M.

Hollingsworth, who died of natural causes, will be buried May 20 at Arlington National Cemetery.