

MEMORIAL DEDICATION
IN HONOR OF
CAPTAIN MERRILL DALE REICH, JR., US ARMY
KILLED IN ACTION 27 MAY 1968
VIETNAM

2:00 PM FIRST UNION PLAZA 11 NOVEMBER 1996

Patriotic Medley	116th Georgia Army National Guard Band
Welcome	J. Patrick Garland, Pres., Atlanta Vietnam Veterans Business Association
Presentation of Colors	Georgia Institute of Technology ROTC
National Anthem	116th Georgia Army National Guard Band
Invocation	Reverend Canon James K. Yeary, D.Min.
Introduction of Speaker	LTC C.J. Armstrong, U.S. Army (Ret)
Dedication Address	Michael J. Bowers, Attorney General of Georgia
Unveiling of Memorial	Georgia Institute of Technology ROTC
Amazing Grace	Chattahoochee Pipes & Drum
Benediction	Reverend Canon James K. Yeary, D.Min.
Taps	116th Georgia Army National Guard Band
Retirement of Colors	Georgia Institute of Technology ROTC

THE SILVER STAR
CAPTAIN MERRILL DALE REICH, JR.
5th SPECIAL FORCES GROUP (AIRBORNE), UNITED STATES ARMY

CPT Dale Reich was born in Atlanta, Georgia on July 8, 1944. He graduated from Grady High School in 1962, where he was captain of the football team. He attended the University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee, playing football all four years, and graduated in June, 1966. Dale voluntarily entered the United States Army that summer, completing basic training at Fort Dix, New Jersey, and the Officer's Candidate School at Fort Benning, Georgia. Upon receiving his commission, he was assigned to the 7th Special Forces at Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

CPT Reich received orders for Vietnam and joined the 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne) in May, 1968. On May 27, 1968, while providing security for the right flank of an ambush operation, CPT Reich observed the point squad of a large North Vietnamese Army force stalking his unit's position. Realizing that the proximity of the rapidly approaching enemy force prevented enough time for a warning, CPT Reich leaped up and engaged the insurgents at point blank range, inflicting severe casualties. Although severely wounded himself, and in the face of intense rocket and machine gun fire, CPT Reich held his position and continued to fire into the advancing enemy main force, allowing the thirteen other Americans enough time to reorganize and shift positions to counter the surprise attack. CPT Reich fought tenaciously until mortally wounded, inspiring his fellow soldiers to smash the numerically superior enemy's advance and drive it back.

For his gallantry in action, at the cost of his life, CPT Reich was awarded the Silver Star. His courage and devotion to duty was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

"TO THOSE WHO FIGHT FOR IT, LIFE HAS A FLAVOR THE PROTECTED NEVER KNOW."

This Dedication Ceremony is sponsored by The **Atlanta Vietnam Veterans Business Association (AVVBA)**, whose purpose is to honor those who served and those who gave their lives in the Vietnam War, and to promote a positive image of the Vietnam Veteran to the business community and the Public.

The Atlanta Vietnam Veterans Business Association wishes to thank Childress Klein Properties and Accent Graphics for their special cooperation in this memorial dedication.

PAST MEMORIAL RECIPIENTS AND LOCATIONS

1995	MAJOR PETER P. PITMAN, US ARMY	GEORGIA TECH QUADRANGLE
1994	CPL CHARLES H. BRITTIAN, JR. US MARINE CORPS	GA. WORLD CONGRESS CENTER EAST ENTRANCE
1993	1LT WILLIAM GAY, JR., US ARMY	SHEPHERD SPINAL CENTER
1992	CPL RICHARD F. SUTTER US MARINE CORPS	UNDERGROUND ATLANTA
1991	WO FRANCES McDOWELL, JR. US ARMY	CONCOURSE A - HARTSFIELD INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
1990	PFC JOEL C. ROPER US ARMY	CONCOURSE OFFICE COMPLEX TOWER COURTYARD
1989	CWO ROBERT N. SAULS, US ARMY	PEACHTREE CENTER COURTYARD
1988	1LT GARY C. JONES, US ARMY	CNN CENTER ATRIUM
1987	LT JOHN L. FULLER, US MARINE CORPS	GALLERIA COMPLEX