



## Barry Sloan Colassard

December 4, 2019

Barry Sloan Colassard, Colonel, USMC (Ret.), 86, of Woodbridge, Virginia passed away unexpectedly on December 4, 2019 surrounded by his family.

Barry was born to the late Jane Mayo and the late Francis Xavier Colassard on October 10, 1933 in Flushing, Long Island, New York. He graduated from the New York State College of Forestry at Syracuse University in June 1955 and was commissioned in the United States Marine Corps as a 2nd Lieutenant the following day.

Barry served almost his entire 30 year career as a Marine Corps infantry officer, following his Cuban Missile Crisis service with two tours in Vietnam (1965 and 1969-70). Later staff service in the Marines included as an intelligence officer, in an assignment in the Office of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and service aboard the National Emergency Airborne Command Post (NEACP) as a War Plans briefer to the President when embarked during a National Emergency.

Upon the opening of the National Museum of the Marine Corps in 2006, Barry devoted countless hours as a docent and regaled many a visitor with his incredible knowledge of all things Marines. He truly embodied the phrase "Once a Marine, Always a Marine".

Barry is survived by his wife of 64 years, Patricia (nee Cheesman), his four children, Karen Lee Zwanzig (Bryan), Kathy Lynne Lopresto (Tony), Cory Sloan Colassard (Mary) and Cy Sloan Colassard (Melinda), eleven grandchildren: Allison Zwanzig Miller (Tim), Brenna Zwanzig; Anthony Lopresto; Cassie, Sloan, Kellen and Trey Colassard, Provie and Marlee Kruger; and Danielle and Ashley Colassard; three great grandchildren: Noah, Nathan and Christian Miller; and his sister, Wendy Segard.

The family will receive visitors at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 14, 2019 at the Chapel at the National Museum of the Marine Corps, 18900 Jefferson Davis Highway, Triangle, Virginia with a Memorial Service to begin at 2:30 p.m. Following the service, the family welcomes all to join them in the Medal of Honor 2nd Deck Lobby in the Museum for a reception.

Final interment will be at a later date at Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in Barry's memory to the following:

3rd Recon Association  
c/o Doug Heath  
107 McCown Circle  
Rockmart, GA 30153

The Marine Corps Heritage Foundation  
18900 Jefferson Davis Highway  
Triangle, VA 22172  
online at [www.marineheritage.org](http://www.marineheritage.org)

Alzheimer's Association

online at [www.act.alz.org](http://www.act.alz.org)

# Cemetery Details

**Arlington National Cemetery**

## Previous Events

### Memorial Gathering

DEC 14. 1:00 PM (ET)

National Museum of the Marine Corps Chapel  
18900 Jefferson Davis Hwy  
Triangle, VA 22172

### Memorial Service

DEC 14. 2:30 PM (ET)

National Museum of the Marine Corps Chapel  
18900 Jefferson Davis Hwy  
Triangle, VA 22172

### Reception

DEC 14 (ET)

Medal of Honor 2nd Deck Lobby in the Museum

# Tribute Wall



“ *Barry Sloan Colassard*

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January 12, 2023 at 12:00 PM



“ *Dee Colassard purchased the Simply Elegant Sp  
athiphyllum for the family of Barry Sloan  
Colassard.*



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**Dee Colassard** - December 12, 2019 at 12:52 PM

WC

“ *Barry, you have always been a hero to me. From the time I was a child you were an extension of your dad, but always your own man. Larger than life, yet humble as they come! You were the keeper of our family genealogy and eager to share your research and knowledge with everyone.*



*How proud and privileged Chris and I were to get a private tour of the National Museum of the Marine Corps from you. You were so passionate and made all the exhibits come to life for us. We will treasure the gift of sand from Iwo Jima and the pin of the flag raising you gave to each of us. I learned so much about you that day that I had never known. I am grateful for all of it.*

*I always loved talking to you and seeing how devoted you were to your beautiful wife Pat (the boss 😊) and your wonderful children and grandchildren. You beamed with pride when you spoke of them. You adored your family and it showed.*

*You will be sorely missed. I know you are rejoicing in heaven with all the greats that went before you, our beloved family and your brothers from the Corps. You touched many lives Barry, well done! Till we meet again...*

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**Wendy Conway** - December 11, 2019 at 04:12 PM

BA

“ *Bill Stussie, past president third Recon Assoc. purchased the Pretty Please for the family of Barry Sloan Colassard.*



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**Bill Stussie, past president third Recon Assoc.** - December 11, 2019 at 02:36 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Barry Sloan Colassard.*



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December 10, 2019 at 07:01 PM



“ *Barry you were my idol. I've cherished what you shared with me. Buddy you were one of a kind. You kept my ears and eyes open about everything. We shared a lot of fond memories with you throughout Viet Nam as well as the current status of our country Seeing you in D..C. was a great honor and I was so proud to see you at the reunion, You were a great Leader and a great Marine. How much better could we have had the honor of you representing our Bn. as well as Charlie Co. You will be greatly missed by everyone, but right now you are in a better and lovable place with GOD.*

*I personally want to thank you for the day you presented me with my PURPLE HEART at the museum. I have a picture of you and myself hanging on the wall in my home. Also, the dedication of the plaque and all the help you gave putting this important part of history together. These are moments in time that I will always remember.*

*GOD BLESS YOU from the bottom of my HEART.*

*SEMPER FI,*

*DOUG/AGGIE HEATH*

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**DOUG HEATH** - December 10, 2019 at 06:29 PM

SC

*Good job marine. Semper Fi*

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**ssgt marty calhoun** - December 11, 2019 at 08:32 AM

KH

*Barry has run the race, competed well, and kept the faith always.*

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**Keith Huddleston** - December 15, 2019 at 07:20 PM

DE

*Rest in peace brother. You have been relieved of your watch. You will not be forgotten.*

*David Erwin*

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**David Lee Erwin** - December 17, 2019 at 12:06 PM

ML

*It was an honor to serve with you at the museum. I'll treasure it always. Semper Fi*

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**Marie Luedke** - January 24, 2020 at 02:30 PM