



Lt. General Thomas G. Rhame

June 27, 2023

Lieutenant General Thomas G. Rhame (Retired)

Lieutenant General Thomas G. Rhame was born in Winnfield, Louisiana on January 27, 1941. He graduated from Lecompte High School in 1959 and Louisiana State University with a Bachelor of Science in Accounting. He was commissioned a Second Lieutenant, Infantry through the ROTC in 1963. He also held a Master of Business Administration degree with a Comptrollership specialty from Syracuse University. General Rhame's military education included the Infantry Basic and Advance Courses, the Armed Forces Staff College, and the Army War College. He was a member of the LSU Alumni Hall of Distinction and the Outstanding Alumni of the Army War College.

General Rhame retired from the Army on September 30, 1997. Following his retirement, he served as Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of the Association of the US Army from 1998 until 2014. His last active-duty assignment was as the Director of the Defense Security Assistance Agency with the Office of the Secretary of Defense. Prior to that, he was the Chief of the US Military Training Mission to Saudi Arabia. During Operation Desert Shield/Storm in 1990 and 1991. He was the Commanding General of the 1st Infantry Division (The Big Red One). Under his command, the Division successfully conducted the initial attack to penetrate the Iraqi defensive position, conducted the Iraqi Republican Guard, and played a crucial role in

the liberation of Kuwait. He also served two tours of combat in Vietnam, his first in 1967 commanding B Company, 1st Battalion of the 12th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division, and his second in 1971, serving as a District Senior Advisor with USAMACV.

Prior to his Command of the 1st Infantry Division, he served as Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel, and Commander of the US Army Community and Family Support Center in Washington, DC. He also served as Commander, of the 2nd Brigade, 3rd ID in Kitzingen, Germany; Chief of Staff, 3rd Armored Division in Frankfurt, Germany and Asst Division Commander, 3rd Armored Division and Community Commander of the Hanau Military Community.

General Rhame received the Defense Distinguished Service Medal (with oak leaf cluster), Distinguished Service Medal (with two oak leaf clusters), Silver Star (with oak leaf cluster), Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star with V device (with two oak leaf clusters), Meritorious Service Medal (with two oak leaf clusters). Air Medal, and Army Commendation Medal with V device.

General Rhame is survived by his high school sweetheart and wife of 62 years, Linda Saunders of Lecompte, Louisiana; his two children, Becca Isakower (Saul) and Gregg Rhame (Pam); three grandchildren, Taylor (Scott), Ashley, and Emily; two brothers Larry Rhame (Barbara) and Ronald Rhame; sisters-in-law Faye Roberts (Ronald) and Shirley Saunders and many cousins, nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents MSgt. Thomas Rhame and Mary Sue Rhame; his brother Maj. Harold Rhame; his sister-in-law Bobbie Rhame (Ronald) and brother-in-law Bobby Saunders (Shirley).

The family will receive visitors Saturday, July 8, 2023 from 1 to 3 p.m. and 5 to

7 p.m. at Miller Funeral Home, 3200 Golansky Blvd., Woodbridge, VA 22192.
Interment will be held at a later date at Arlington National Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in memory of LTG (Ret) Thomas G Rhame to the Society of the First Infantry Division, P.O. Box 2307, Fort Riley, KS 66442, or the Army War College Foundation at donate.usawc.org.

Cemetery Details

Arlington National Cemetery

Previous Events

Viewing

JUL 8. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Miller Funeral Home & Crematory, Inc.
3200 Golansky Blvd.
Woodbridge, VA 22192
703-878-CARE (2273)
<https://millerfuneralhome.net/>

Viewing

JUL 8. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Miller Funeral Home & Crematory, Inc.
3200 Golansky Blvd.
Woodbridge, VA 22192
703-878-CARE (2273)
<https://millerfuneralhome.net/>

Tribute Wall

SM

“ I was a member of the initial breach task force in the Persian Gulf War... We were the sappers assigned to support spearhead plow tank companies... A certain Colonel suggested the sappers should first approach the breach boots on the ground... General Rhame said, no way, I am not risking the lives of those soldiers unnecessarily... Later we did dismount... However, it wasn't until the plows had already proofed the lane.... He was a soldier's General... Most likely the the greatest compliment you could ever give a commanding General... Especially a Vietnam veteran... <https://youtu.be/Npd-bzPwW50?si=2GdssM0URZ4MDIYz>

Sergeant Lawrence Moore - January 05 at 08:34 PM

C(

“ MG Rhame was a remarkable inspiration! When 1st ID leadership was briefed the initial battle plan in Kansas which assessed 50% casualties the first day of fighting and being combat ineffective, he stood up and told the leaders that such an outcome would not happen. Instead he pointed to the map and said that the 1st ID would breach the berm and find all the way to Kuwait. As history shows, his assessment is exactly what happened! As a young Captain, that was one of the best examples of leadership I had observed, and remains true throughout my life, including 35 years of active service in the Army myself.

Chris McPadden MG (R) - May 09, 2025 at 02:22 PM

FT

“ RIP Tom.



frank Titus - December 04, 2023 at 02:20 PM



“ A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Lt. General Thomas G. Rhame.



September 25, 2023 at 02:40 PM

SG

“ I was 1/34 Armor Ft. Riley Ks.

Shawn Guy - July 10, 2023 at 09:47 AM

MH

“ General Rhame pinned my Bronze star on me. HHT 1/4 Cav, Fort Riley Ks

Michael Hardwick - July 10, 2023 at 05:42 AM

JA

“ 2 files added to the album Rhame



John Andrews - July 09, 2023 at 10:04 AM



“ *R.I.P Sir...I was with the 1st Infantry Division in Desert Storm with 2nd Bn 34th Armor..TF Dreadnaught...May God bless and comfort the family on their loss!!*

Robin Colbert - July 08, 2023 at 09:27 AM

BB

“ *Rest in peace General. Thank you for your service to our Republic.
Semper Fi,
Maj. Bradley Burt, USMC
Gulf War Veteran*

Bradley Burt - July 07, 2023 at 09:07 PM

JA

“ Danger 6 (Commanding General, 1ID Call sign), this is Danger 4 (G-4 1ID),

Thank you for your mentorship, leadership and friendship for the past 33 years. I will cherish my memories of our service together and friendship until we meet again. Rest assured that Diane and I will stay in touch with Lin and the Rhame Family.

No Mission to Difficult, No Sacrifice to Great, Duty First!
John & Diane Andrews

John Andrews - July 07, 2023 at 07:20 AM

BN

*A Slow Hand Salute from SPC (P) RE Nolde Alpha Company Maintenance
3BN 15TH INF REGIMENT 24TH INFANTRY DIVISION Operation Desert Storm. Until Valhalla Sir.*

Bobby Nolde - July 07, 2023 at 02:41 PM

RB

Was an honor to have been selected as your Sergeant Major.

Robert Brashears - May 04, 2024 at 11:49 AM

JC

“ Farewell to a great soldier, leader and good friend. We traded so many Bama-LSU stories!

Geaux Tigers! Roll Tide!

John Caldwell

John Caldwell - July 03, 2023 at 10:44 AM

FT

“ *RIP Tommy.*



Frank Titus - July 02, 2023 at 04:16 PM

MS

Farewell Genrral Rhame, you were a warrior and a great Commander. It was an honor working for you Sir! Salute, Michael Stuart, Major US Army Retired.

Michael Stuart - May 10, 2024 at 03:03 PM