A Salute to Louisiana Veterans

November 1-3, 2018
Louisiana State University
Hall of Honor Inductees
Christopher W. Barnett
First Lieutenant, U.S. Army

The late Christopher Barnett earned a bachelor’s degree in Information Systems and Decision Sciences from LSU in May 2001. In 2003, he was commissioned through Officer Candidate School (OCS) as an Armor/Cavalry Second Lieutenant.

Barnett enlisted as an Armor Crewman in 1990, serving in F CO/40, Berlin Brigade; 3/68th Armor, 4th Infantry Division, Ft. Carson, Colorado; and 2nd Infantry Division, Korea. He transferred to the Louisiana Army National Guard in 1997 with service as Tank Commander, Section Leader, and Platoon Sergeant in A Troop, 108th Cavalry, 256th Infantry Brigade (M). Upon commissioning, he was assigned as a Cavalry Platoon Leader.

In 2004, Barnett was mobilized in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) in March and deployed to Kuwait in September, with follow-on to Multi-National Division Baghdad (MND-B) in October. He was selected as the Battalion Scout Platoon Leader, Task Force 1-156 (TF Geronimo) in November and personally commended by the Commander, MND-B & 1st Cavalry Division for the actions of his platoon in a critical engagement with insurgent forces in the Euphrates River Valley in December 2004.

Barnett was killed in action on December 23, 2004, and posthumously promoted to First Lieutenant on December 25, 2004.

Barnett’s honors and awards include the Draper (Armor) Leadership Award, Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Iraqi Campaign Medal with Campaign Star, National Defense Service Medal, Army of Occupation Medal, and Combat Action Badge.

In civilian life, Barnett was employed by the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development and Unisys Corporation in Baton Rouge.

Barnett is survived by his mother, Judy Barnett; his brother and sister-in-law, Jim and Kim Barnett; nieces Kaleigh and Kelci; nephews Micah and Nathan, all of Greenwell Springs, Louisiana; and an uncle, Robert Robertson of Alexandria, Virginia.

Regrettably, his death cut short what would have certainly been a long and illustrious life full of the many military and civilian awards, recognitions and distinctions that make up the selection criteria for this honor. In his sacrifice, Lieutenant Barnett nonetheless set an inspirational standard of leadership by which none that knew him will ever forget. His deeds and distinctions were cut short, but still carry a lasting and inspirational impact.
– Col. Thomas B. Plunkett, III (Ret.)
Ben Robert Franklin, III  
**Lieutenant, U.S. Navy**

Ben R. Franklin graduated from LSU in 1967 with a bachelor’s degree in history. He was secretary of his Kappa Sigma Fraternity pledge class in his freshman year and vice president in his senior year. A four-year LSU ROTC cadet, he was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the U.S. Army in 1967.

Through inter-service transfer to the U.S. Navy, Franklin was commissioned as an Ensign in 1968 and ordered to Navy flight school. He earned his Navy wings in 1969 and flew more than 300 combat missions in Vietnam and Cambodia. Based shipboard on the Mekong and Bassac rivers, he served with Helicopter Attack Light Squadron Three (HAL-3) – the most heavily decorated Navy squadron of the Vietnam era – in the Mekong Delta, providing close air-fire support for PBR and Swift boats.

Franklin served as Executive Officer on Detachment 5, and as Squadron Awards Officer, processed a one-year backlog of awards. His last tour was with Helicopter Combat Support Squadron Five (HC-5). Based in San Diego, Calif., he flew helicopter anti-submarine and rescue training missions, and as Admiral’s pilot cruised the western pacific from Guam to Japan. He was honorably discharged in 1972.

For his military service, Franklin received fifteen Air Medals – four with Gold Stars for heroic action in combat, Navy Unit Commendation, Meritorious Unit Commendation, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, and Expert Pistol Shot Medal.

A real estate broker, Franklin founded his own company, Franklin Realty Group, in 1976 and during his career developed and managed condominiums, multifamily units, and office space and brokered major land sales for residential, commercial, golf courses, and upscale hotel properties in Louisiana, Tennessee, and Florida. He currently manages multifamily, farmland, and timber properties in Louisiana.

Franklin served as an altar boy at St. Aloysius Catholic Church in Baton Rouge and continues to provide financial support as a member of the parish. He also played supporting roles in various local organizations, including the city’s First Tee Program, and the programs of Kappa Sigma Fraternity.

Franklin was raised in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Prescott Murphy and is the son of Ben R. Franklin, Jr., all of Baton Rouge. His son Hansen Franklin graduated from Catholic High and attended the University of Alabama. His son Rogers Franklin graduated from The Webb School, Bell Buckle, Tenn. and the University of Louisiana at Lafayette.

Franklin and his girlfriend, Allen Breazeale, love to travel and enjoy the company of their many old friends.
Robert Louis Freshley, Sr.
Lieutenant Colonel (RET) United States Army

Robert Freshley was recruited to LSU from Rockport, Indiana. He entered school in September 1950 on a four-year basketball scholarship. He was a member of the 1953 Final Four team. This LSU basketball team went undefeated in the SEC from 1952 to 1954. He graduated and received his commission in January 1955.

Freshley entered the Army in June 1955. Among his assignments were Headquarters and Headquarters Battery Commander, Fort Rucker, Alabama; Battery Executive Officer, New Ulm, Germany; S-3 Section of VII Corps Artillery Headquarters, Stuttgart, Germany; Operations and Training Officer of ROTC, LSU; Advisor to I Corps Artillery Commander, Vietnam; Comptroller, U.S. Armor Training Center, Fort Knox, Kentucky; U.S. Embassy, Tripoli, Libya as Advisor to Libyan military; Battalion Commander, Fort Polk, Louisiana; Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas; 5th Army Inspector General Division, Fort Sam Houston, Texas; and J-1 for Military Assistance Advisory Group, Bangkok, Thailand.

Among the highlights of his military career were doubling the senior cadet enrollment of ROTC at LSU; being a highly valued target with a $50,000 bounty placed on him by the North Vietnamese; commanding a battalion; attending Command and General Staff College; and evacuating 26,000 military personnel and their families from Thailand in sixty days.

Freshley retired from the Army in March 1977. His military awards include the Bronze Star, the Air Medal, two Joint Service Medals, two Meritorious Service Medals, the South Vietnamese Medal of Honor/First Class, and several others.

After retiring, Freshley initiated the JROTC program at Leesville High School and served as the Senior Instructor for sixteen years. During his tenure, he procured 168 four-year college scholarships for his cadets and sent forty-seven cadets to the service academies.

Robert and Mary Freshley have been married for sixty-three years. They reside in Jeanerette, Louisiana, and have six children, all of whom are here today, and eight grandchildren.

Freshley is a proud, lifetime member of the LSU Cadets of the Ole War Skule.
Albert Wanner Perez  
Colonel (RET), U.S. Air Force

Albert W. Perez earned a bachelor’s degree in industrial technology from LSU in 1968 and was commissioned through LSU ROTC. He was a member of the Pershing Rifles Drill Team and Commander of the Pershing Rifles Color Guard. He received the 1967 Pershing Rifles Life Savings and American Red Cross Life Savings awards and the 1968 Air Force ROTC Commandant’s Award as Outstanding Cadet. He holds a master’s degree in liberal arts from Texas Christian University.

Perez served on active duty from 1969 until his retirement in 1997. After completing pilot training he was assigned as a B-52 pilot to the 28th Bomb Wing, 77th Bomb Squadron and deployed three times to Southeast Asia, flying more than 140 combat missions and more than 900 combat hours. In future assignments, he was a B-52 instructor in the 7th Bombardment Wing, 4018th Combat Crew Training Squadron and assistant director of training for the 7th Bomb Wing; Staff Officer, Strategic Air Command (SAC) Headquarters; Operations Officer/Squadron Commander, 524th Bomb Squadron; Wing Commander, 801 Provisional Wing, Moron Air Base, Spain, supporting Desert Shield/Desert Storm; Commander, 2nd Bomb Wing; Acquisition Commander, Langley Air Force Base; and Senior Military Assistant to the Assistant Secretary of Defense, Pentagon, Washington, D.C. Perez has more than 4000 hours of flying time in the B-52, KC-135, KC-10, F-16B and the B-17.

His awards include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Distinguished Flying Cross w/ oak leaf cluster (one for heroism), Meritorious Service Medal w/ two oak leaf clusters, Air Medal w/ eight oak leaf clusters; Air Force Commendation Medal, Combat Readiness Medal, Vietnam Service Medal w/ three service stars, Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm, Air Force Organization Excellence Award w/ one device, Air Force Outstanding Award w/ Valor, Southwest Asia Service Medal w/ two devise, National Defense Service Medal w/ one device, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, and Kuwait Liberation Medal.

Perez’s leadership was a significant factor in the awarding of two consecutive Kenney Awards for best Operational Readiness Inspection performance by a SAC bombardment wing and its selection as the Outstanding Bomb Squadron in 1988.

After retiring from the military, Perez joined the U.S. Automobile Association in San Antonio, Texas, as an IT manager and director in bank systems. After retirement in 2012, he returned to Baton Rouge. He is a lector and Eucharist minister at St. George Catholic Church; a life member of the Order of Daedalians and the Red River Valley Fighter Pilots Association; and a life member of Cadets of the Ole War Skule and LSU Pershing Rifle Association.

Perez has been married for fifty years to the former Joyce Greer. They reside in Baton Rouge and have four daughters and six grandchildren.
Hall of Honor
Distinguished LSU Military Alumni

1996
Judge Carlos G. Spaht

1997
Mr. Gordon Cain
Mr. Frank Craig
Mr. Johnny Cox
COL Joseph W. Dale, Jr.
Mr. John Doles
LTC Walter Johnson
Mr. Phil Larimore
Judge Harvey Posner
MG Ansel Stroud

1998
CMDR Loren A. Bailey
Mr. John Capdeville
MG A. Harry Conrad, Jr.
MG O’Neil J. Daigle
Mr. W.J. Evans
MG Joe Gray
Mr. Charles W. Hair, Jr.
Mr. Homer H. Harris, Jr.
Dr. Harold J. Heck
BG Wilbur F. Joffrion
Mr. George W. Johnson
Mr. Marion F. Kirby
Mr. John P. Laborde
Mr. Mansel M. Mayeux
MG Robert Bruce Smith
Mr. Bert S. Turner

1999
BG J. Levy Dabadie, Jr.
Mr. Fred C. Dent, Jr.
MG Carl F. Ernst
Dr. J. B. Frye, Jr.
MAJ Adolphe G. Guemard
Mr. Francis Landry Kirk
COL Leo J. Martin
Dr. George L. Robertson
COL Frank Humphrey Walk
COL J. Trigg Wood, Jr.
Dr. Martin D. Woodin

2000
LTC Sidney V. Arbour, Jr.
Dr. Thomas Campanella
Mr. John C. Copes, III
Dr. Thomas E. Glaze
Mr. Claude “Buddy” Leach
BG Robert J. LeBlanc
2LT Edward V. Loustalot
LTC William E. Maurin
LTC William McCollam, Jr.
Mr. J.B. Olinde, Sr.
Dr. Gordon W. Peek
LTC David E. Pope
Dr. John S. Roussel
Judge C. Benton Sartain
LTC Ben H. Scarpero
LTC John M. Welch

2001
Dr. Raphiel J. Benjamin
COL John C. Bonnette
Mr. William T. Bowles
COL George J. Guidry, Jr.
CPT Albert M. Karre’, Sr.
Mr. William C. McCorkle
COL Eugene W. McGehee
Dr. Gerald E. Posner
MG Michael A. Schulz
Mr. Albert Joseph St. Dizier

2002
BG W. Arthur Abercrombie
LTG Malcolm Armstrong
Mr. Jack Colle
COL Fredrick William Grant
Mr. William J. Heroman
COL Jerry J. Juneau
BG Robert J. Koch
Mr. Lucien P. Laborde
Dr. Larry D. McCaskil
BG Wiltz P. Segura

2003
Mr. Paul Arst
Mr. Edward M. Carmouche
Dr. Doyle Chambers
COL Charles H. MacDonald
GEN Troy H. Middleton
LTC Dewell D. Pittman
BG Louie Reineker
LTG Thomas G. Rhame
Mr. Oscar G. Richard
LTC Calvin L. Robbins, Jr.
Mr. Harvey J. Schwartzberg

2004
LTG Charles C. Campbell
Mr. Jack C. Castrogiovanni
LTG Tony L. Dodgen
BG Edward B. Kitchens
Col. Lynn L. LeBlanc
Mr. Richard A. Lipsey
Sen. Russell B. Long
Mr. Larry L. Mobley
MG Ronald G. Richard
Mr. Lawrence B. Sandoz

2005
LTG E. Ratcliffe “Andy” Anderson
GEN Robert H. Barrow
Congressman
Thomas Overton Brooks
Col. Louis G. Cancienne
GEN J. Lawton Collins
Mr. Alfred G. Glassell, Jr.
LTC Edward B. Landry
LTG John A. Lejeune
RADM Daniel B. Lestage
MG Harry J. “Skip” Phillips
Mr. Kenneth E. Uffman
## Hall of Honor
### Distinguished LSU Military Alumni

### 2006
- LTC Irwin J. Becnel
- Mr. Jeff Benhard
- Col. David Covillion
- LTC Arthur J. Gayle, Jr.
- Mr. W. Griffin “Griff” Jones
- Mr. Whitney Antonie Langlois
- Col. Harry Lee
- RADM (Ret.) Daniel B. Lestage
- LTC Stanley M. Mailet
- Mr. John B. Perry
- COL Frank B. Stanly
- Mr. John B. Staples
- Mr. Walter G. Thomas
- COL Henry E. Walden
- COL Charles L. Wascom
- COL Roy Young

### 2007
- Alden André
- Col. Tom Blakney
- MG Bill Bowdon
- Judge William Brown
- Gen. Claire Chennault
- Col. Dave DeFelice
- MG Hunt Downer
- LTG Terry Gabreski
- Dr. George H. Jones
- Col. Louis Lancaster
- Dr. Denver Loupe
- Col. Gil Slaughter
- Col. Covert Soulé
- Dr. Ken Tipton, Sr.
- Col. Walter White

### 2008
- COL James E. Boutté
- Alex Box
- LTC Richard E. Gerard
- Judge John T. Hood, Jr.
- Gary Garcia Kelly
- LTC James R. McCall
- COL Weldon C. McHugh
- Brig. Gen. Ralph J. Melancon
- LTC Frank M. O’Quinn
- Alfred W. Platte, Jr.
- COL Debbie C. Rondem
- John T. Shelton, Jr.
- COL Frank P. Simoneaux
- LTC Robert R. Taylor, Jr.
- COL William H. Waters
- Dalton J. Woods

### 2009
- LCDR John M. Allred St. Claire Bienvenu, Sr.
- BG Glenn Curtis
- Dr. Joel L. Fletcher, Jr.
- Frank W. Harrison, Jr.
- LTC Morton C. Hurston, Jr.
- LTC Samuel E. Lawrence, Jr.
- LTC Sanford A. Redock
- COL Percy Vilas “Pete” Rougon
- Alfred M. L. Sanders
- Dr. Harley Jesse Walker

### 2010
- COL Joseph Gerace
- Col Charlie B. Moore
- COL Farnham Libby “Ham” Morrison
- COL William S. “Bill” Orlov
- COL Michael B. Stupka
- Col John T. “Jack” Twilley

### 2011
- LTC Ralph Thompson Brown
- Lane Anderson Carson
- COL Richard D. Chappuis, Sr.
- BG Steve Archie Chappuis
- Col George L.J. Dalferes
- Billy H. Ezell
- Dexter Allen Gary
- Paul M. Hébert
- Norman V. Kinsey
- Lloyd F. Love
- Lt Col Ralph W. Stephenson, Jr.
- CAPT Carl F. Weiss

### 2012
- Col Kirby E. Allen
- Col Donald C. Bulloch
- Edward C. Capron, Jr.
- CAPT Franklin J. Foil
- LTC Stephen Holsten Harmon, Jr.
- Judge Leon J. LeSueur
- John Dan McNeil
- William M. Meyers
- COL John Foley Pugh, Jr.,
- MG Joseph Alsop Redding
- Lt Col Stanley Shaw
- Robert McGehee “Mac” Wallace

### 2013
- COL Ray Caldwell Dawson
- COL Warren R. Hull, Sr.
- LTC John M. “Jack” Jolissaint, Jr.
- CAPT William Bruce King
- LTC Nicholas J. “Nick” Lorusso
- COL Ernest W. (Butch) Lutz, Jr.
- Judge Thomas Eaton “Tom” Stagg, Jr.
- LTC Ford Edwards Stinson, Sr.
- LTG Jeffrey Wade Talley
- Col Elwood C. “Woody” Tircuit
- COL George K. Todd, Jr.
- COL Warren N. Waggenspack

Continued
Hall of Honor
Distinguished LSU Military Alumni

2014
COL Patrick R. Bossetta
COL James Gregory “Greg” Jolissaint, M.D.
CPT Brad J. Juneau
Maj Gen Lee K. Levy II
COL Joseph A. Macaluso
LTC William G. “Geary” Mason
BGN Karlynn Peltz O’Shaughnessy
Brig Gen Dale E. Webb

2015
SPC Robert J. Barham
LTC James Logan Brown
1st Lt Louis D. Curet
CW4 James Edward Gerace
CPT John J. Killeen, Sr.
1LT Maxwell Melville Merritt
1LT Roy D. Mitchell
Brig Gen Bobby V. Page
CPT Vaughn Robert Ross, Sr.
CPT William Dickson Shaffer, Jr.
Cpl Daniel Mark Waghelstein

2016
LTC Walter Patterson Anderson
LTC Henry Elliott Attaya, Jr.
CDR William J. Butterworth, Jr.
LTC William Derwood Cann, Jr.
CDR George H. Fuller
Col Gordon Louis Jenkins
MCIS Genny May
1LT Layne Joseph Romagosa
CPT John S. “Johnny” White, Jr.
1LT Hiram J. Wright

2017
John Bel Edwards
Brig Gen Bob L. Efferson
CPT Willis W. Gayle
COL Richard J. Keller
Cpl Germaine C. Laville
SSG O. Fred Loy
Maj Ian H. “Sniffer” Rowe
LTJG Charles Ray Smith
A Salute to Louisiana Veterans

LSU Military Excellence Commission

The Heritage

Louisiana State University boasts a long, proud history of educating leaders for the state, the nation, and the world. Among its alumni are CEOs of business, industry, government, and education; celebrated artists and distinguished politicians; religious leaders and prominent philanthropists.

LSU alumni are also counted among chief military leaders in the United States armed forces and are some of the country’s most highly decorated heroes – a proud reflection of the University’s military heritage that began in 1860. A great many of these men and women were members of the LSU Corps of Cadets. It was here they became part of the “Long Purple Line,” perpetuating LSU’s military traditions.

The Tribute

The University wants to honor its military heroes and the men and women in the country’s armed services – yesterday’s, today’s, and tomorrow’s – and toward this end, has embarked upon a capital campaign to renovate and restore Memorial Tower to its original purpose by creating the LSU Military Museum.

The museum will be the repository for artifacts and memorabilia reflecting the University’s rich military history and heritage. Its hallowed halls will offer a nostalgic stroll through University military history and will showcase the contributions of LSU men and women who have served and are serving their country in the armed forces.

The LSU Military Museum will augment and complement LSU’s other military memorials: The LSU War Memorial – honoring students, faculty, staff, and alumni killed or reported missing in action during World War II and subsequent military conflicts; Memorial Oak Grove – remembering the thirty LSU students and alumni who lost their lives in World War I; and the T-33 Jet – a memorial for all LSU graduates who have died in the defense of our nation during the “jet age.”

LSU invites you to be part of restoring the glory of Memorial Tower. Prestigious naming opportunities for galleries and rooms and sponsorships of permanent and temporary exhibitions in the LSU Military Museum are available.

For information, contact: The LSU Military Excellence Commission, Memorial Tower, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803. Telephone: 225-578-0420; e-mail: cadets@lsu.edu or visit the Cadets of the Ole War Skule website at olewarskule.lsu.edu.
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