

In Memory Of Dwayne Lee

May 11, 1942 – August 13, 2016



Dwayne Goldsmith Lee was born on May 11, 1942 in Waco, TX to LaZelle Goldsmith Lee and Wayne Emmitt Lee. He graduated from Waco High School in 1960. He went to West Point, graduated in June of 1964 with honors, and was commissioned as 2nd LT in the Army Corps of Engineers. He served in Germany, Viet Nam, earned a Master's Degree from the Air Force Institute of Technology at Wright Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton Ohio. He served in Thailand in a major highway rebuilding effort. After an army school at Ft Belvoir, he was reassigned to the US Military Academy as an instructor. He oversaw the consolidation of the US Military Forces on Okinawa. He attended the Command and General Staff College at Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas. He was assigned to the headquarters of the 18th Airborne Corps and later as commander of the 27th Engineer Combat Battalion at Ft. Bragg, NC. He went to the Pentagon, another army school, and then to the Chief of Engineer's office in Washington, DC to be a liaison between Congress and Corps of Engineer projects. He assumed command of the Louisville Engineer District. His final assignment was head of the Corps' Waterways Experiment Station in Vicksburg, MS with 6 research laboratories. He retired from the Army in April of 1989.

During his years of service he received awards of the Bronze Star for service, Silver Star, Bronze Star with V device, Meritorious Service Medal with one Oak Leaf cluster, and the Legion of Merit with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters. On retirement from the Army, Dwayne obtained the position of Deputy Executive Director of the Port of Los Angeles overseeing and managing a 2 billion dollar expansion program. In the summer of 1996 he went to work for the Parson's Corporation in Pasadena, CA helping manage large water resource projects. He resigned from Parsons in 2002, established his own consulting firm, and after that, focused on being a volunteer, helping to develop water well drilling projects in Africa. In 2006 he and Nan moved to NC to be near their children, where he enjoyed complete retirement. He was also on the board of trustees for the Medical Benevolence Foundation, which provides medical equipment to 3rd world countries.

Dwayne was a committed Christian and worked under the conviction of the Parable of the Talents. Those talents that God has given us are expected to be used to further His Kingdom. He loved his churches everywhere he lived and was involved in teaching and working in each in many different ways.

Dwayne is survived by his wife, Nancy Ann Nelson Lee, a son Wayne Emmett Lee, a daughter Krista Ann Lee, and daughter-in-law Rhonda Mawhood Lee, one granddaughter, Grace Carol Kasper of Memphis, TN and numerous cousins from around the US.

Memorial gifts may be made in Dwayne's memory to Lifewater International. Contributions will go toward drilling a water well in Democratic Republic of Congo in a rural village to provide safe water to children and families. Checks should be made out to Lifewater International and sent to Nancy Lee at 2207 Arrington Street, Durham, NC 27707. Nan will forward the memorials at once to the agency. Dwayne made numerous trips to several countries in Africa to train local people how to drill wells and repair pumps.