

Collin County Freedom Fighters
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PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Six Fallen Warriors Portraits to be Presented at the Collin County Court House

McKinney, Texas, October 29, 2015 – The portraits of six Collin County young men who died while in the service of our country will be presented for permanent display in the lobby of the Collin County Courthouse, 2100 Bloomdale Road, McKinney, at 11:30 am, Monday, November 9, 2015. The fifth installment ceremony of the Collin County Fallen Warrior Portrait Project will make a total of 27 portraits that line the walls of the “Hall of Heroes”. There are 365 names engraved on the “Wall of Honor” at the Collin County Veterans Memorial Park in McKinney, and the goal of the project is to put as many faces as possible with those names. The six heroes to be honored are:



Russell A. Steindam, 23, Plano, 1st Lieutenant, United States Army. Killed in Action in Vietnam, February 1, 1970. While leading a nighttime jungle patrol, his squad was hit by an enemy ambush. After taking cover in a bomb crater, a hand grenade landed on the ground in the midst of his men. In order to save the lives of his men, Russell dove onto the enemy hand grenade, absorbing the full impact. Posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor.



James T. Caraway, 22, McKinney, 1st Lt., US Army Air Corps, Pilot of B24 “Liberator”. On August 11, 1944, James and his crew were killed when his plane went down somewhere over the Himalayas while flying missions between India and China.



Woodrow H. Allen, 24, McKinney, Aviation Machinist Mate 1st Class, US Navy. Survived five major battles at sea in the Pacific, including the sinking of the *USS Hornet*, where 140 Sailors went down with the ship, and was killed in action at sea on Sept. 4, 1943.



Francis R. Luscombe, 22, Anna, Ensign, US Navy. Pilot of a “Hellcat” fighter, based on the *USS Enterprise* aircraft carrier in the South Pacific. Went down with his plane in open seas on February 16, 1945. His name is listed on the “Tablets of the Missing” at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, Honolulu, Hawaii.



Royce G. Scoggins, 18, McKinney, Private First Class, Machine Gunner, 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines. Killed in action on March 5, 1966, in a battle that for the first time pitted US Marines against soldiers of the Army of North Vietnam. First Collin County boy to be killed in Vietnam and one of the youngest.



Thomas B. Holdbrooks, 19, McKinney, Private First Class, Rifleman, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marines. Killed in action on December 28, 1967, when cut down by heavy machine-gun fire in a fierce battle at a place called Go Noi Island, South Vietnam.

The Collin County Portrait Project is privately funded and sponsored by American Legion “Bill Bryan” Post 110 and Collin County Freedom Fighters. The portraits are created by McKinney artist and US Air Force veteran, Colin Kimball, who donates his time and talents to this historic project.

For more information go to www.ccfreedomfighters.com.