



James J. McLaughlin, Jr.

James enlisted in the Marine Corps on June 10, 1940. James married his sweetheart, Mercedes Moore, on September 11, 1942, just before shipping off to battle. He spent the next 27 years in service to his Country in WWII, Korea and Vietnam. During World War II he was with the 1st Marine Division. He was involved in multiple Pacific Campaigns, including the Battle of Okinawa and Guadalcanal. In Korea he was in the battle at the Chosin Reservoir.

In his career he earned the Presidential Unit Citation (5 stars), Good Conduct Medal (5 stars) American Defense Service Medal, American Campaign Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal (4 stars), WWII Victory Medal, Navy Occupation Medal, National Defense Service Medal (1 star), Korean Service Medal (6 stars), United Nations Service Medal, Korean Presidential Unit Citation, Distinguished Pistol Medal, Silver Rifle Medal, and Lloyd Trophy Medal.

James retired from the Marine Corps in May 1967 at the rank of Major and relocated his family from Norfolk, Virginia to Tustin, California. After his military service, James also had a rewarding career working for Parker Hannifin, where he worked as a test engineer on the first space shuttle elevator system. He also worked on building a test platform and control system for the Army's AAH Helicopter program which resulted in the Apache.

James passed away on January 05, 2022, at the age of 101. Semper Fi.

