

Colonel Eugene "Papa Fox" Brady made his final takeoff today to fly West and rendezvous with Ginny, Greg and Jimmy. Colonel Brady touched the lives of many and will be remembered and missed by all who were fortunate enough to have known him We Love You Colonel Brady

Semper Fi Your Purple Fox Family



Colonel Eugene "Papa Fox" Brady

March 27, 1928 June 9, 2011

Marine Officer, Naval Aviator, Mentor and Friend

Flying West

Dedicated to: Colonel Eugene "Papa Fox" Brady

*I hope there's a place, way up in the sky,
Where pilots can go, when they have to die-
A place where a guy can go and buy a cold beer
For a friend and comrade, whose memory is dear;
A place where no doctor or lawyer can tread,
Nor management type would ere be caught dead;
Just a quaint little place, kinda dark and full of smoke,
Where they like to sing loud, and love a good joke;
The kind of place where a lady could go
And feel safe and protected, by the men she would know.*

*There must be a place where old pilots go,
When their paining is finished, and their airspeed gets low,
Where the whiskey is old, and the women are young,
And the songs about flying and dying are sung,
Where you'd see all the fellows who'd flown west before.
And they'd call out your name, as you came through the door;
Who would buy you a drink if your thirst should be bad,
And relate to the others, "He was quite a good lad!"*

*And then through the mist, you'd spot an old guy
You had not seen for years, though he taught you how to fly.
He'd nod his old head, and grin ear to ear,
And say, "Welcome, my son, I'm pleased that you're here.
"For this is the place where true flyers come,
"When the journey is over, and the war has been won
"They've come here to at last to be safe and alone
From the government clerk and the management clone,
"Politicians and lawyers, the Feds and the noise
Where the hours are happy, and these good ol' boys
"Can relax with a cool one, and a well-deserved rest;
"This is Heaven, my son -- you've passed your last test!"*



The Marine's Prayer

Almighty Father, whose command is over all and whose love never fails, make me aware of Thy presence and obedient to Thy will. Keep me true to my best self, guarding me against dishonesty in purpose and deed and helping me to live so that I can face my fellow Marines, my loved ones, and Thee without shame or fear. Protect my family.

Give me the will to do the work of a Marine and to accept my share of responsibilities with vigor and enthusiasm. Grant me the courage to be proficient in my daily performance. Keep me loyal and faithful to my superiors and to the duties my Country and the Marine Corps have entrusted to me. Help me to wear my uniform with dignity, and let it remind me daily of the traditions which I must uphold.

If I am inclined to doubt, steady my faith; if I am tempted, make me strong to resist; if I should miss the mark, give me courage to try again.

Guide me with the light of truth and grant me wisdom by which I may understand the answer to my prayer.

High Flight

*Oh! I have slipped the surly bonds of Earth
And danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings;
Sunward I've climbed, and joined the tumbling mirth
Of sun-split clouds, — and done a hundred things
You have not dreamed of — wheeled and soared and swung
High in the sunlit silence. Hov'ring there,
I've chased the shouting wind along, and flung
My eager craft through footless halls of air. . . .*

*Up, up the long, delirious burning blue
I've topped the wind-swept heights with easy grace
Where never lark, or ever eagle flew —
And, while with silent, lifting mind I've trod
The high untrespassed sanctity of space,
Put out my hand, and touched the face of God.*

Colonel Eugene R. Brady, USMC

June 1946-September 1980

Colonel Eugene R. Brady was born in York, Pennsylvania, on 27 March 1928, and entered the United States Marine Corps in June, 1946 two days after high school graduation. He attained the rank of Buck Sergeant before being selected Naval Flight Training in 1949. He was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in December 1950 and was assigned as a pilot to VMF-122 at Cherry Point, North Carolina, and subsequently reassigned during May 1951 to VMF 223. He saw duty in Korea as a pilot with VMF 311.

From September 1952 through July 1954 Colonel Brady was assigned as a pilot with VMR-252 at Cherry Point, North Carolina. He then served as Assistant Group Operations Officer and Assistant Wing Operations Officer until his transfer in November 1955 to FMFlant, Norfolk Virginia, where he served in the G-3 of Air Wing FMFlant and as Commanding Officer of H&S Squadron. A tour as Flight Instructor followed at Corpus Christi, Texas for eighteen months.

From March of 1959 he served as Aide-de-Camp to the Commanding General 1st MAW and then in the same capacity to the Commanding General 3rd MAW at El Toro. During December 1960, he joined VMF(AW)-542. He was assigned as Executive Officer of the squadron until December 1963 when the squadron returned to El Toro from Atsugi, Japan.

Assigned to MCAS Quantico in November 1963, he served as assistant S-3 of the station, Commanding Officer H&HS, Executive Officer of SOES and Commanding Officer of that squadron from January 1966 until September 1966, when he attended George Washington University until his graduation in May 1967.

Following jet refresher training at El Toro, he was assigned ultimately as Commanding Officer of MABS-33. He was assigned to Helicopter Transition Training in June 1968. His subsequent tour in Vietnam was spent with MAG-16 as S-3 and as Commanding Officer of HMM-364, the Purple Foxes.

During the period of October 1969 through 1971, he was assigned to DC/S (Air) at Headquarters Marine Corps. In July of 1971, he was assigned to the United States Army War College, earning a Master of Science Degree from Shippensburg State College in conjunction with his academic pursuit at the USAWC.

Colonel Brady Served as Commanding Officer of MCAS(H) Tustin from August 1972 through July 1974. He then became Commanding Officer of MAG-16 from August 1974 until July 1975.

From July 1975 through November 1977 he served as Chief of Staff, MCB Camp Butler, Okinawa, Japan. In December 1977, Colonel Brady became Special Assistant to the Commandant on the Naval Forces Staff, Seoul Korea. After returning from Korea in 1979, he served as Inspector COMCABWEST.

Colonel Brady's decorations include the Navy Cross, the Silver Star Medal, the Legion of Merit, 48 Air Medals, the Navy Commendation Medal, the Purple Heart, the Presidential Unit Citation, the Navy Unit Commendation, the Good Conduct Medal, the United Nations Service Medal, the Vietnamese Service Medal, the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Palm and the Combat Action Ribbon.