



State of South Carolina Military Department

JOINT SERVICES DETACHMENT
DSO-JSD-STOP 3
1 NATIONAL GUARD ROAD
COLUMBIA, SC 29201-4766

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MG JOHN B. GRIMBALL, COMMANDER, JSD
BG JAMES E. LOCKEMY, DEPUTY COMMANDER, JSD
BG JOHN W. GEIGER, ADJUTANT, JSD
LTC ANGELA STRINGER, PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER, JSD



JSD MOURNS LOSS OF BG 'BO' MULLIS

February 24, 1940 – October 10, 2012

It is with great sorrow that MG John Berkley Grimbball and the SC Military Department Joint Services Detachment (JSD) bid farewell to BG James Marvin “Bo” Mullis, Jr. BG Mullis, or Bo, as he preferred to be called, was a dedicated member of the JSD since 2000. BG Mullis’ tireless efforts toward the betterment of Soldiers, Civilians and the SC Military Department propelled him to the rank of Brigadier General in the JSD of the South Carolina Military Department. His generous contributions to South Carolina Soldiers includes providing legal services such as writing wills for troops that were deploying to Iraq and Afghanistan. He also worked vigorously to advance creation of a State Defense Force Air Wing, which would have planes and pilots trained and ready to assist during any state emergency.

BG Mullis practiced law from 1966 to present, first in Darlington, then as a Judge Advocate in the U.S. Air Force during the Vietnam War, stationed at the Amarillo Air Force Base in Texas for 3 years, then at the Vandenberg Air Force Base in California. During the next 20 years, he served in the JAG Corps in the U.S. Air Force Reserve, while concurrently launching a private practice in Columbia, SC. In 1971, he established the Mullis Law Firm, where for 40 years, he mentored many of the state’s leading legal advocates including his daughter, Pamela Mullis and State Senator Gerald Malloy. Bo was a past President of both the Southern Trial Lawyers Association and the South Carolina Association for Justice. For many years, he admirably represented South Carolina on the Board of the American Association of Justice, the national organization of plaintiffs’ trial attorneys.

It was in Bo’s very nature to always rise to the top. As a young man, he earned the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest rank attainable in the Boy Scouts of America program. In 2011, he was selected for the Southern Trial Lawyers Association’s American Eagle Award. His accomplishments continued throughout his life. The Southern Trial Lawyers Association also selected him as the 2013 Recipient of the prestigious and coveted **Warhorse Award**, which will be awarded posthumously during the annual convention, which will take place in February 2013 in New Orleans. **Warhorse Award** Recipients are lawyers who have practiced law for 30 or more years, are recognized as top courtroom advocates, have contributed significantly to the teach of trial advocacy, are truly and genuinely a leader in the trial bar and are considered one of the true characters of his/her time.

MG John Berkley Grimbball and all the JSD officers extend our deepest sympathy to Bo’s beloved wife, Bonnie Brewer Mullis and his family during this time of great loss.

As a leader of soldiers and lawyers, Bo earned the respect of all who knew him. His leadership, dedication and contributions are a legacy that will impact the SC Military Department, as well as the Soldiers and citizens of the State of South Carolina for many years.

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