

General (Ret) Frederick M. Franks, Jr.

General (ret) Fred Franks graduated 3 June 1959 from the United States Military Academy and retired from active Army service 1 December 1994. Since active Army retirement, General Franks has continued work in public service and as an advocate for Wounded Warriors.

He has taught and mentored strategic and senior tactical level leadership, and has been mentor to Army studies on training and leader development. He collaborated with Tom Clancy on a book, *Into the Storm: A Study in Command*, first published in 1997 with two additional chapters added and the latest edition published 2007. In September 2001 President George W. Bush appointed him to serve voluntarily on the American Battle Monuments Commission. He became the ninth Chairman of ABMC in January 2005 and served in that capacity until January 2009.

He currently holds the Class of 1966 Chair in the Simon Center for the Professional Military Ethic at the United States Military Academy at West Point, teaching Battle Command, and serving as a mentor to the US Army's current Profession of Arms after nine years of war study. He currently also serves since 2009 as a senior advisor and with Veterans Outreach for the Red Sox Foundation-Massachusetts General Home Base Program committed to serving the needs of Veterans and their Families for PTS and TBI. In April 2009 he completed work recommending ways for the Army and Nation to better fulfill our duty to Wounded, Ill, and Injured Service Members for the Army Chief of Staff. In October 2010 he completed a second study, to recommend ways to overcome the challenges members of the Reserve Component face who are medically not ready with their access to the Military Disability System. He also serves voluntarily as Chairman of the Board of VII Corps Desert Storm Veterans Association. Gen (ret) Franks has spoken at Army Wounded Warrior Program (AW2) and also frequently speaks publicly on leadership and public service, using the theme, 'to lead is also to serve'.

During his active Army service, General Franks commanded Armored Cavalry units at platoon, troop, squadron, and regimental levels in the 11th and 3d Armored Cavalry Regiments in periods from early 1960 to 1984. General Franks served in combat in Vietnam as S-3, 2nd Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment August 1969 until being medically evacuated to Valley Forge General Hospital in May 1970 after being wounded in action in Cambodia. After having his leg amputated below the knee and recovery and rehabilitation at Valley Forge General Hospital, he was permitted to remain on active duty and returned to active service in early 1972. Later, in Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, then Lieutenant General Franks commanded the 146,000 US and British forces of VII Corps that attacked over 250 kilometers in 89 hours and as part of the Coalition liberated Kuwait in February 1991. He concluded his active service as Commanding General Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) from 1991-1994, responsible for the U. S. Army's school system and for formulating concepts and requirements for future land warfare.

General Franks holds two Master Degrees from Columbia University in New York City, an honorary Master of Military Art and Science from the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, and an honorary Doctor of Humanities from Albright College in Reading, PA. He successfully completed U.S. Army Airborne and Ranger training, as well as military service schools to include the National War College. He received four awards for valor, two Purple Hearts, numerous military awards for service, and individual decorations and awards from France, Germany, and Spain, his native Pennsylvania, and the Harry S. Truman Good Neighbor Award Foundation in Kansas City. He was elected to the Athletic Hall of Fame and named a Distinguished Alumni by his hometown Wilson High School, and elected in 2004 to the Berks County Chapter of the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame. In May 2000 the Association of Graduates named him a Distinguished Graduate of West Point. In May 2008 he was inducted into the Ft. Leavenworth Hall of Fame.