

**2001 Hall of Heroes Inductees**  
(Short Bios)

**James Willard BRALY** Silver Star and Distinguished Flying Cross

This Huntsville native retired as a Lt. Col. from the United States Air Force in 1965 with over 22 years of military service. Colonel Braly currently resides in Tulsa, Oklahoma. During his service in the Republic of Korea he was awarded the Silver Star for Gallantry and the Distinguished Flying Cross for heroism. His other decorations include the Purple Heart for wounds received and two Air Medals. He is a veteran of two wars: World War II, and Korea.

**James Donald CUFF** Bronze Star Medal "V"

This disabled veteran of the Korean War entered active duty from Minnesota. He now calls Huntsville his home. He was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for heroism during his tour of duty in The Republic of Korea. In addition, he was awarded the Purple Heart for wounds sustained in action, two Air Medals, and the Parachutist Badge.

**Robert L. STINSON** Bronze Star Medal "V"

Robert L. Stinson was a resident of Glencoe, Alabama in Etowah County when he entered the United States Army in 1939. After serving 31 years on active duty he retired as a Sergeant Major in 1970. He was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for heroic actions against the German Army in 1944. He also received three Army Commendation Medals during the war and various campaign and service awards. He now resides in Huntsville, AL.

**David Paul VANHOOSER** Silver Star

This Kentucky native became a career soldier and retired from the United States Army as a LTC having served over 28 years of active military service. He was awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action against an armed enemy during the Vietnam War. In addition he was awarded the Legion of Merit, two Meritorious Bronze Star Medals, the Air Medal, the Air Force Commendation Medal, Combat Infantry Badge, Parachutist Badge, and several other awards. Colonel VANHOOSER now resides in Huntsville, AL.

**Robert C. VASILE** Bronze Star Medal "V"

A native of the State of Florida, this career soldier spent over 26 years in the United States Army before retiring as a Colonel at Redstone Arsenal. Colonel Vasile was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for heroism in ground combat in the Republic of Vietnam in 1968. His other decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Combat Infantry Badge and Parachutist Badge. He currently resides in Huntsville, AL.

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**George B. WOOD – (Deceased)**     Bronze Star Medal “V”

Born in Maine, Reverend George “Chappie” Wood entered the United States Army Chaplain Corps in 1942 from Minnesota. He participated in several major battles during WWII and is the only Chaplain to have made 4 combat jumps during that war. Those jumps were made in Sicily, Salerno, Normandy and Holland. He was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for heroism. Chappie Wood lived in Huntsville, AL for more than 25 years prior to his death in 1999.