

2021

James Floyd Ray

Matt Hartnett

Georgia College & State University, matthew.hartnett@bobcats.gcsu.edu

Sarah Jacobs

Georgia College & State University, sarah.jacobs@bobcats.gcsu.edu

Katie Roman

Georgia College & State University, katherine.roman@bobcats.gcsu.edu

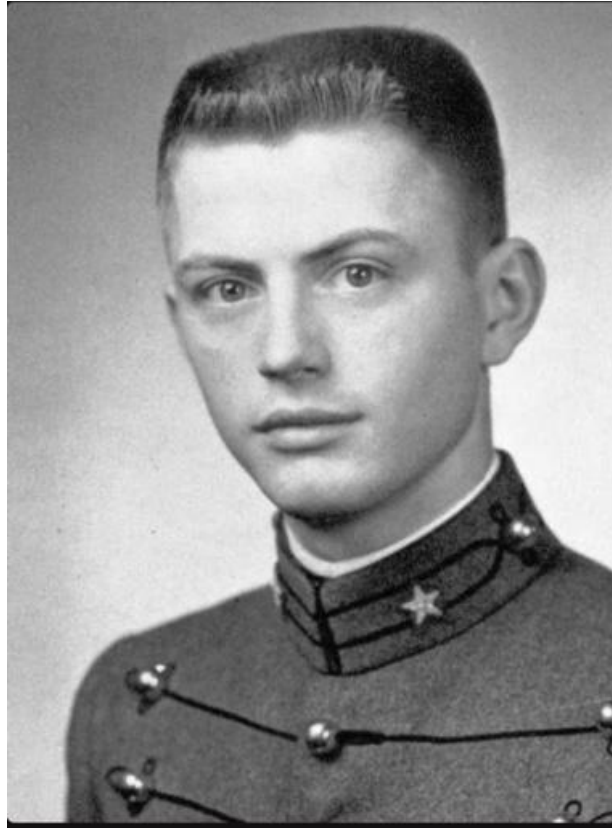
Follow this and additional works at: <https://kb.gcsu.edu/nativesons>

Recommended Citation

Hartnett, Matt; Jacobs, Sarah; and Roman, Katie, "James Floyd Ray" (2021). *Native Sons Lost: The Vietnam War Dead of Milledgeville, Georgia*. 8.

<https://kb.gcsu.edu/nativesons/8>

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Undergraduate Research at Knowledge Box. It has been accepted for inclusion in Native Sons Lost: The Vietnam War Dead of Milledgeville, Georgia by an authorized administrator of Knowledge Box.



Capt. James Floyd Ray
Vietnam Veteran Archive
Sarah Jacobs, Matt Hartnett, and Katie Roman

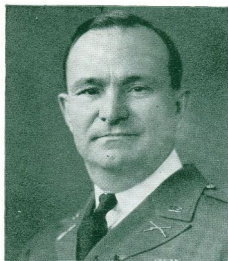
Biography

Captain James Floyd Ray was born August 17, 1937 in Baldwin County, Georgia to parents Claude Elbert Ray (1908-1996) and Annie Joe Moye Ray (1911-1999), according to Findagrave.com. Ray graduated from the United States Military Academy in the class of 1959. While at West Point, he became a Rhodes Scholar. He studied philosophy, politics, and economics at Oxford University and planned a career path in international economics. Ray was a distinguished student, graduating from West Point second in his class. James Floyd Ray married Charlotte Ruth Walters in Smith, Texas on July 12, 1961, according to the Smith County Marriage Records database found on Ancestry.com. He considered himself a Protestant. Also noted on the Findagrave.com page is that during his time in the Army, Floyd served as the Captain of the SD 5891 company in the 99th province in the 4th Infantry Division, Fort Lewis, Wash. from 1963-1964. Following that, he served in the Military Assistance Command, Vietnam (MACV) from 1964-1965. While serving in this position he helped advise generals and ground troops on battlefield tactics and logistics. On January 9, 1967, Ray was killed by gunshots or small arms fire while on the ground in Vietnam, according to the U.S. Select Military Registers database found on Ancestry.com. His body was recovered. While his military career lasted only four years, he was revered by friends and family with many commenting on his valor, honor, and courage and many saying he had the potential to become a member of the Joint Chiefs Commission.

His gravestone can be found at 1520 Harry Wurzbach Road San Antonio, TX 78209, Section W Site 2994.

RAY Milledgeville, Georgia 1-2 Congressional Jim had previously lived on the post for five years and consequently was well schooled on the tradition and system which we were about to encounter. An active participant in extra-curricular activities, he still managed to find time to carve out a top slot for himself in class standing. Always willing to give somebody a helping hand, he will be remembered for his efficient capacity and sharp personal appearance. Debate Council Forum 4-3-2-1. Chairman: German Club 4-3; Hop Committee 4-3-2-1; Public Information Detail 4; Cadet Chapel Choir 4-3-2-1; Glee Club 4-3-2-1; Stars 3-2-1; Corporal 2; Captain 1. MHBMWi—Nineteen Hundred Fifty-Nine

Pictures



Colonel Joseph Frances Muldrow, B.S.
Lieutenant Colonel Executive Officer
325th Infantry Reserve
Commandant

Major Thomas Henry Rentz, A.B.
Mercer University
University of Georgia
History, Athletic Director



Major Samuel James Whatley, A.B., M.A.
Second Lieutenant 325th Infantry Reserve
Mercer University
English

Major Ren Atherton Thorne, A.B., M.A.
Acadia University
Mercer University
French, Spanish



Major George Eslie Florence, B.S.
University of Georgia
Duke University
Mathematics

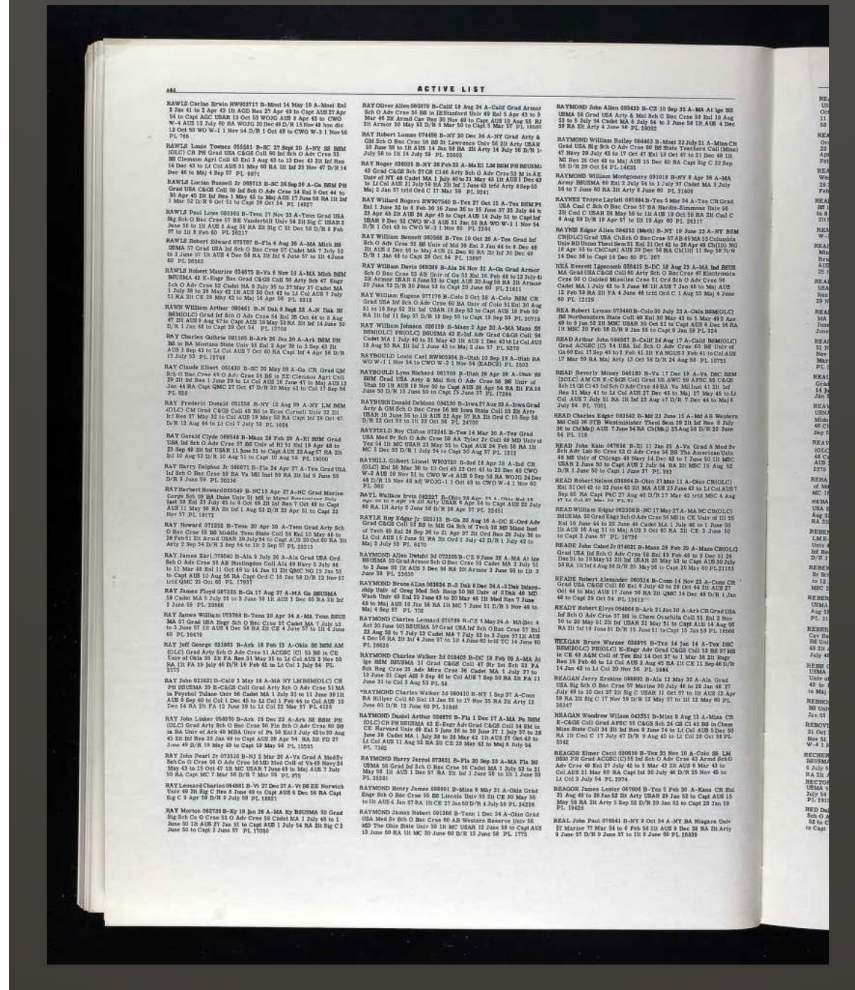
Major Claude Elbert Ray, B.S.
First Lieutenant 325th Infantry Reserve
Clemson College
Science



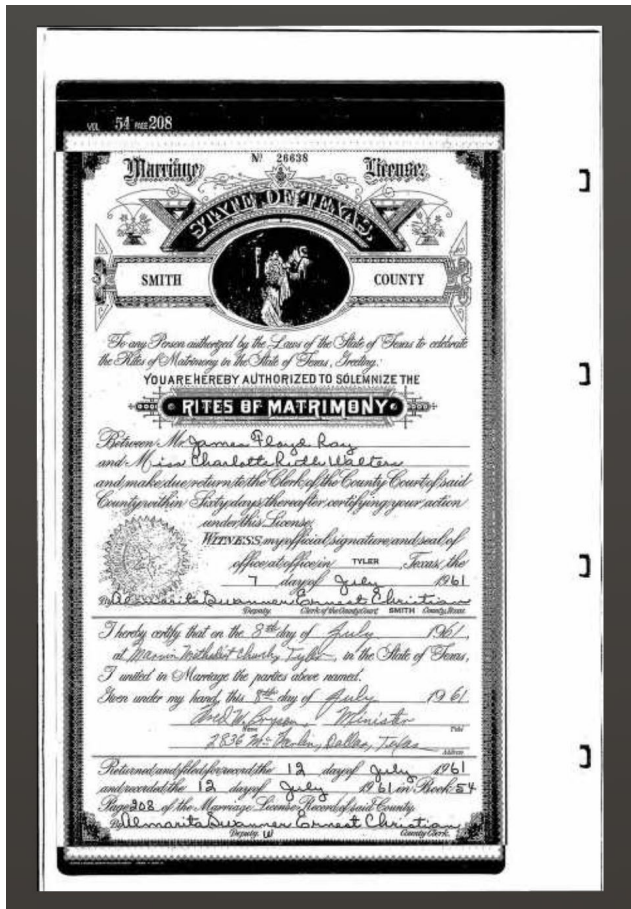
Major Godfrey Osterman, B.S.
Bethany College
Science and Band

Major Joel C. Kennedy, A.B.
Second Lieutenant 327th Infantry Reserve
Wofford College
Mathematics

Major Claude Elbert Ray, James' father, is pictured in the third row, second column, in the 1938-39 Georgia Military College 60th annual Announcement. Provided by the GMC library.



U.S. Select Military Registers, 1861-1985, online database, Ancestry.com



Smith County Clerk's Office; Tyler, Texas; *Smith County Marriage Records*; The Book Series: *ML*; Volumes: 00054; Pages: 0208. Online database, Ancestry.com

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE BUREAU OF ECONOMIC RESEARCH UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE BUREAU OF CENSUS
 SIXTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES 1940
 POPULATION SCHEDULE

Geography: Baldwin, Georgia
 Roll: m-t0627-00637
 Page: 20B
 Enumeration District: 5-7

NAME	RELATIONSHIP TO HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD	SEX	AGE	MARRIAGE	SINGLE	MARRIED	DIVORCED	WIDOWED	WEDDED	WIDOWED	MARRIAGE	DIVORCED	WIDOWED	WEDDED	WIDOWED	WEDDED	WIDOWED	WEDDED	WIDOWED	WEDDED	WIDOWED	WEDDED	WIDOWED	WEDDED	WIDOWED	WEDDED	WIDOWED	WEDDED	WIDOWED	WEDDED	WIDOWED	WEDDED	WIDOWED	WEDDED	WIDOWED	WEDDED	COUNT		
																																					MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
James M.	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Year: 1940; Census Place: Milledgeville, Baldwin, Georgia; Roll: m-t0627-00637; Page: 20B; Enumeration District: 5-7, online database, Ancestry.com

Form No. 116

LIST OF IN-BOUND PASSENGERS
(United States Customs and National Guard Office)

Class **CANEN** from **London, ENGLAND** **TRAVEL** **23 July** **1953**
(Port of arrival)

Arriving at port of **NEW YORK, N.Y.** **3 AUG.** **1953**

Form of origin **UNION SOVIET (T-AP-97)**

No.	Name (Last-First-Middle) Indicate in Other Column	Age (Years)	Sex	Color of Hair	Place and Department of Birth	Place of Origin on Date of Entry (Last Name and I.R. Number)
1	RAY, Annie J. Maconville, Ga. Name as above	42	F	H	25070 Maconville, Ga.	296
2	RAY, James F. Name as above	15	M	S	25071 Milledgeville, Ga.	
3	RAY, Robert H. Name as above	9	M	S	750 Mount Airy, N.Y.	
4	RAY, Jeanne V. Name as above	6m	F	S	25070 Vienna, Austria	
5	REED, Allen H. 1101 Woodley Rd, NW, Washington, D.C. Name as above	69	M	H	190152 Liberty, Mo.	
6	REED, Beale Jr. Name as above	69	F	M	190152 Dunlap, Iowa	
7	REYNOLDS, Veronica H. Patt Road, Lancaster, N.Y. Name as above	45	F	H	64362 Geneva, N.Y.	
8	REYNOLDS, Patricia A. Name as above	6	F	S	64362 Canaan, N.Y.	
9	ROSE, Rowena H. 205 Chestnut St., Lowell, Mass. Name as above	33	F	M	20176 Lowell, Mass.	
10	ROSE, Elizabeth L. Name as above	7	F	S	20176 Washington, D.C.	
11	ROSE, John E. Jr. Name as above	5	M	S	20176 Washington, D.C.	
12	ROSE, Roland H. Name as above	7m	M	S	20176 Glenview, Germany	
13	ROSE, Lucille H. 27 Bellevue Ave., Taunton, Mass. Name as above	36	F	M	26577 Taunton, Mass.	
14	ROSE, William Name as above	14	M	S	26577 Taunton, Mass.	
15	ROSE, Mary H. 211 N. Alabama St., Tomball, Texas Name as above	37	F	M	27276 Houston, Tex.	
16	ROSE, Judy C. Name as above	8	F	S	27276 Houston, Tex.	
17	ROSE, Sam Name as above	7	M	S	27276 Seattle, Wash.	
18	ROSE, Marilyn J. 111 N. Ridgewood, Mass. Name as above	31	F	M	36625 Dorchester, Mass.	
19	ROSE, Billy H. Name as above	9	F	S	36625 Taunton, Mass.	
20	ROSE, Ralph V. Jr. Name as above	5	M	S	36625 Columbia, S.C.	
21	ROSE, Barbara Name as above	4	F	S	36625 Wilmington, Vermont	
22	ROSE, Jan R. Name as above	1	F	S	36625 Salzburg, Austria	

Prepared by **S. V. OGDEN, JR., USN**

Handwritten signature

Year: 1953; Arrival: New York, New York, USA; Microfilm Serial: T715, 1897-1957; Line: 2; Page Number: 296, online database, Ancestry.com

ACTIVE LIST

LOSERS - REGULAR ARMY ACTIVE LIST

DEATH CERTIFICATE

DATES SHOWN BELOW TO 1958 WERE NOT OF RECORD AT THAT TIME

RANK	NAME	SERVICE NO.	BRANCH	DATE
Capt	Berwick John Mohr	000270	TC	28 Aug 45
Capt	Clifton John MacFarland Jr	001217	Army	22 July 45
Capt	George Marlow	001249	Inf	7 Feb 45
Capt	James Joseph Baskin	001471	Inf	20 May 45
Capt	Douglas Frank Matthews	001482	Quar	13 Nov 44
Capt	Thomas Edward McWhorter Jr	001997	Inf	28 May 45
Capt	William Richard McPherson	002003	Inf	4 Dec 45
Capt	William Ward Duncan Jr	002071	Inf	24 Aug 45
Capt	Fernando Edmond Onda	002084	Inf	30 May 45
Capt	Christopher Joseph O'Connell	002085	Inf	27 Oct 45
Capt	Thomas John Palmer	002090	Inf	24 Aug 45
Capt	Robert Edward Bevia	002097	Inf	18 Sep 45
Capt	James Floyd Day	002124	Inf	8 Jul 45
Capt	James Lawrence Beaud	002177	Army	24 Aug 45
Capt	John Charles Day	002181	Quar	29 May 45
Capt	William Joe Smith	002184	Quar	17 Nov 45
Capt	Charles Robert Tucker	002229	Inf	8 Apr 45
Capt	John J. Van Walker	002241	Inf	24 Mar 45
Capt	Philip W. Hill	002242	Inf	19 Feb 45
Capt	Donald Lloyd Egan	002262	Inf	7 Nov 45
1st Lt	Elvis Gordon Decker	002211	Quar	1 Nov 45
1st Lt	Philip Dan Childers Jr	002261	Quar	24 May 45
1st Lt	Thomas Alvin Griffith Jr	002263	Quar	17 Nov 45
1st Lt	John William Irving Jr	002472	Inf	8 May 45
1st Lt	Thomas James Johnson	002473	Quar	17 Apr 45
1st Lt	William Thomas Beach	002410	Inf	6 Nov 45
1st Lt	William Thomas Beach	002410	Army	6 Jul 45
2nd Lt	Charles Thomas Hutchinson 3d	001034	Inf	10 Mar 45
2nd Lt	James Morris Kelly	001033	Army	27 May 45
2nd Lt	Frank DeLoach Sr	001043	Inf	10 Nov 45
2nd Lt	Allen Charles Bender	001034	Inf	18 June 45
2nd Lt	Clayton Theobald Jr	001071	Inf	2 Nov 45
2nd Lt	David Leonard Lightfoot	001071	Inf	8 Nov 45
CWO	Richard Thomas Boyd	001080	Quar	11 Feb 45
CWO	Harold William Pank	001081	Quar	8 Sep 45

U.S., Select Military Registers, 1862-1985, online database, Ancestry.com. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2013.

Release Forms



ORAL HISTORY RELEASE CC BY-NC-SA [PROJECT NAME]

Updated 12.3.19

Participant's name:

Mailing address:

Phone and/or email:

I voluntarily agree to be interviewed for this historical study of [project details]. I understand that the following items may be created from my interview:

- an audio and/or video recording
- an edited transcript and summary
- a photograph of me
- copies of any personal documents or additional photos that I wish to share

I understand that my interview (and other items above) may be distributed to the public for educational purposes, including formats such as print, public programming, and the Internet. Also, I agree to freely share my interview (and other items above) under the terms of a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International License. This means that I retain the copyright, but that the public may freely copy, modify, and share these items for noncommercial purposes under the same terms, if they include the original source information. In return, the interviewer promises to send one free copy of the interview recording, transcript, and related items to my address above. Any exceptions to this agreement must be listed below:

Permission granted:

Mauriel Gaslyn 5-5-2021
Participant's signature date

Interviewer's signature date

References

1. *Find a Grave*, database and images (www.findagrave.com/memorial/3043703/james-floyd-ray : accessed 03 May 2021), memorial page for CPT James Floyd Ray (17 Aug 1937–9 Jan 1965), Find a Grave Memorial ID 3043703, citing Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery, San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas, USA ; Maintained by Friends of Rocky Versace (contributor 48151922)
<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/3043703/james-floyd-ray>
2. Ancestry.com. *U.S., Vietnam War Military Casualties, 1956-1998* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2005.www.ancestry.com
3. Ancestry.com. *1940 United States Federal Census* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2012. https://www.ancestrylibrary.com/discoveryui-content/view/51716270:2442?tid=&pid=&queryId=9744cd02108c5ae69b18a22a555ef7f4&_phsrc=mQs4&_phstart=successSource
4. *U.S., Select Military Registers, 1862-1985*, online database, Ancestry.com. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2013.