

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Army Captain "Rocky" Versace
Inducted into Pentagon Hall of Heroes

Today, Secretary of the Army Thomas E. White and Army Chief of Staff Gen. Eric K. Shinseki inducted Army Medal of Honor recipient Capt. Humbert R. Versace into the Pentagon's Hall of Heroes.

The official induction ceremony honoring Vietnam veteran Capt. Humbert R. Versace follows President George W. Bush's posthumous award to Versace of the Medal of Honor in a ceremony at the White House yesterday.

Speaking to a capacity crowd of family members, veterans and soldiers, Secretary White and Gen. Shinseki praised Versace, who was a West Point graduate, Army Ranger, recipient of the Purple Heart and the Combat Infantryman's Badge and an Army Special Forces intelligence advisor. Both commented on his extraordinary heroism while assigned to the Military Assistance Advisory Group, Detachment 52 in Ca Mau, Republic of Vietnam, and his indomitable willpower and courage while a prisoner of war, exemplifying the highest fulfillment of the tenets of the Code of Conduct while facing hardships, injury and merciless interrogations. He died in captivity.

Versace, known to many as "Rocky," was a military family member who was born in Honolulu, Hawaii, on July 2, 1937 and grew up in Norfolk and Alexandria, Va.

The Hall of Heroes is the Defense Department's permanent display for all recipients of the Medal of Honor. The display area includes plaques with the name of every recipient since 1863, when the award was established. More than 3,400 names on the walls in the Hall of Heroes embody valor, courage and selfless service.

For more information about the Hall of Heroes induction ceremony for Capt. Versace, contact Army Public Affairs (703) 602-3938