

James Robert (Bobby) Jones

Class of 1940

Jones earned a B.S. degree from North Texas State University and a M.S. degree from George Washington University. While a student on an athletic scholarship at NTSU and after entry of the United States in World War II, he enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves in 1942. Called to active duty in 1943, he was commissioned in March 1944. In his 34-year active career, he participated overseas in three wars.

In 1945, as a platoon commander, he participated in the amphibious assault and seizure of the Japanese Island fortress of Iwo Jima. The bitterly contested battle was the bloodiest in terms of the number killed and wounded, in the Marine Corps history.

During the Korean War, he served with Naval amphibious Forces, Far East. In years following the conflict, he served in various command and staff assignments in the U.S., Japan and Hawaii and attended advanced level Marine Corps and Department of Defense schools.

In 1967-68, now a colonel, he served his first tour in Vietnam conflict, commanding logistic groups supporting Marine and Army forces operating near the border surrounding South and North Vietnam.

In 1971, Jones was transferred to Headquarter, U.S. Marine Corps, Washington D.C., where he was appointed Quartermaster General of the Marine Corps. In 1973, he was advanced to the rank of major general.

Among his decorations are the Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit with Combat "V" and two gold stars, in lieu of the second and third awards; he was given the Joint Service Commendation Medal.