



**1LT THOMAS P. McCULLOUGH**  
**US Army, Retired**

**NDR Hall of Fame Induction: 15 April 2023**

1LT McCullough commissioned as an Infantry officer in May 1969 upon his graduation from Northwestern State with a Bachelor of Science in English. His military education includes the Infantry Officer Basic Course, the Basic Airborne Course, and Ranger School. In 1979, he earned a Master of Science in Public Administration from the National University of San Diego in 1979.

In June 1970, he deployed to Vietnam where he served as a Platoon Leader with A Company, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 52<sup>nd</sup> Infantry, 23<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division. Within a few months, he was selected to command A Company. During this period, he received severe combat wounds while conducting operations near Quang Ngai. With less than six months into his deployment, he was shot through his right arm and back resulting in paralysis for nearly 52 years.

For his bravery during the Quang Ngai operation, he was cited for **“consistently manifesting exemplary professionalism and initiative while serving as Company Commander. His rapid assessment and solution of numerous problems inherent in a combat environment greatly enhanced his unit’s effectiveness against a determined and aggressive enemy. He distinguished himself on two consecutive days by heroic action and clear operations.”**

1LT McCullough was awarded two Silver Stars for heroism, three Bronze Stars for meritorious achievement, and the Purple Heart for injuries in Vietnam. He received these awards at a ceremony held at Northwestern in October 1971, where NSU President Dr. Arnold Kilpatrick proclaimed October 7, 1971, as Thomas P. McCullough Day.

After a lengthy hospital stay, surgeries, and rehabilitation, 1LT McCullough was officially placed on the Permanent Disability Retired List in March 1971. In 1973, he entered a Veterans Administration training program for prosthetics and later accepted a position as the VA Chief of Prosthetics for the State of Oregon. He held this position until 1976 and moved to other civilian jobs through the 1970’s and 1980’s. In 1989, 1LT McCullough became involved with the Boys and Girls Club of Rogue Valley, Oregon. He later served as a member of their Board of Directors, 2002-2017, at which time became an Emeritus Board Member until his passing in September 2022.

1LT McCullough was active in community service and political organizations. He was a member and Campaign Treasurer of the Kiwanis Club and was on the Josephine County Parks Advisory Board. He was recognized as a Founding Sponsor of the National Museum of the US Army located at Fort Belvoir, VA.