

General dusts off hero's story in book

By JC Sullivan
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Northfield, Ohio --- I first learned of him several years ago while watching stories on America's Medal of Honor recipients.

What I remember most was learning of his youthful accidental plunge into the deep end of a swimming pool.

A non-swimmer, and because of his clear-headed thinking and absence of panic, he simply held his breath and walked on the bottom until he emerged at the shallow end.

I have often related this story since that time. That ability served him well in Vietnam and continues in his post-active duty life.

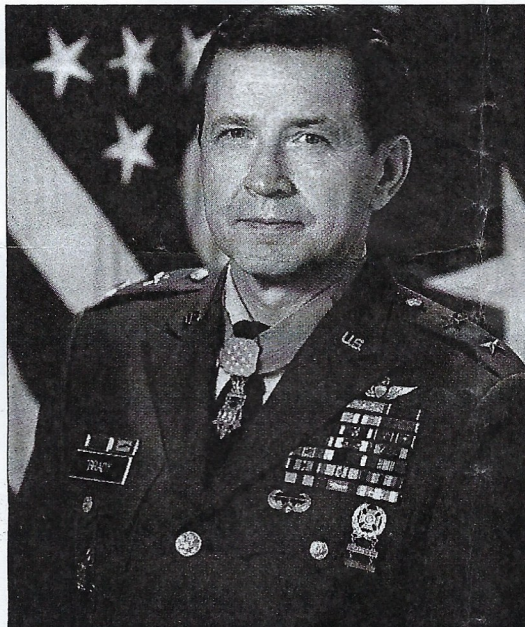
"Dead Men Flying" is a story of the courage of men and women he served with; some are named, others not.

Co-written by General Patrick Henry Brady and his daughter Meghan Brady Smith, the book revolves around many army officers, enlisted men and nurses in Vietnam and elsewhere, in particular the late Major Charles Kelly and the co-author himself.

Brady describes the combat operations of the 57th beginning in 1964, when the war was hot but America had not yet contributed many soldiers or lives to it.

His second tour, with the 15th His second tour, with the 15th Medical Detachment (HA), which he eventually commanded, ended in 1968, the year of the TET offensive.

Brady has been described as the top pilot and most highly-decorated soldier of the Vietnam war. He is a man of strong faith and incredible luck. He earned numerous decorations for valor: several Purple Hearts, two Distinguished Service Medals, one Distinguished Service Cross and the Congressional Medal of Honor



General Patrick Brady.

Medal of Honor "Dead Men Flying" describes many of America's unsung heroes and the colorful characters Brady got to know. He unabashedly describes heartfelt love for Georgian Charles Kelly, the father of "Dust Off."

Killed on just such a mission, Kelly's last words were "When I have you wounded."

Brady has dedicated the book to Kelly and his family and "all the Kelly twigs," meaning those who were tutored in Kelly's ways.

"Kelly was unique in the degree to which he possessed all forms of courage, which is, of course, the bedrock of leadership....a man of humble begin-

nings and humility is a constant mark of great leaders," Brady wrote.

He also found in Kelly what he believes is the key to courage: faith.

"I have not known many people of constant repetitive courage who were not also people of faith. Kelly was a man of deep faith founded in World War II and fostered throughout his life.

"You can have all the courage you want; you can't use it up. In my judgment it's a function of faith. I wouldn't try to define it for somebody else but it's a simple belief there's something above and beyond a particular moment, someone who's the source of goodness and something worth dying for."

Many wounded who survived Viet Nam are alive due to the actions of "Dust Off," the air ambulance operations and their helicopter pilots and crewmen. Brady's service in Vietnam saved over 5,000 wounded during his over 2,500 combat missions. His influence in educating officers who were right out of Flight School undoubtedly saved many lives as well.

The viciousness of the Vietnamese communists is described by Brady. While America learned of the infamous "My Lai Massacre" by American forces, for whatever reasons, we did not learn very much about communist atrocities while the war was being conducted.

General Creighton Abrams, Commander of U.S. forces in Vietnam, said this about Dust



Brady in Vietnam.

Offs, "...Courage above and beyond the call of duty was sort of routine for them. It was a daily thing, part of the way they lived. That's the great part and it meant so much to every man who served there.

Whether he ever got hurt or not, he knew Dust Off was there. It was a great thing for

tegrity and responsible citizenship. Those values take place whether you're in uniform or out of uniform. Every day in civilian life you see fireman, police officers, young men and women who put their lives on the line every day."

Brady added: "We use vignettes in the program. What is a hero? What is courage? What is sacrifice? It's the best thing we've done, and I've been in the Society for over 40 years."

According to its website the program "was designed for use in a variety of education purposes, with lesson plans that use best practices based on national standards and core values. The program is enhanced by the addition of video teleconferencing with a Medal of Honor recipient addressing student assemblies or classrooms and interacting with students in question and answer sessions." Although Brady has been to Ireland before, and one of his sons has been on Ancestry.com tracing their familial roots, Brady has never done any family research himself in Ireland. It's something he's planning for later in 2014.

Thus far, his family has traced matters to Terrence Brady, born about 1790 or 1799, and his spouse Margaret Burns, born about the same year. His son Patrick was born in 1822 in Killana Parish. His wife was Mary Burns, born in 1834.

They immigrated to Canada where eleven children were born in Camden, Ontario. The male line from there was grandfather, Henry, and father Michael. The family later crossed into the United States.

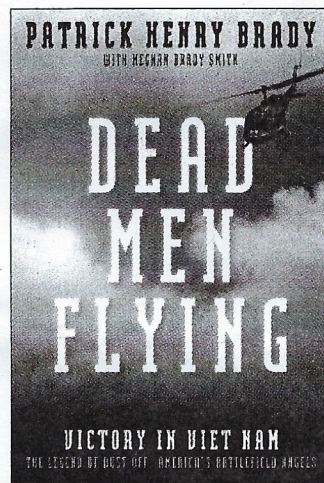
General Brady was raised in Seattle, but currently resides in San Antonio, Texas.

Should any distant family members recognize a connection they can communicate with him via

uisuileab-hain@yahoo.com.

General Brady has a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from Seattle University and an MBA from Notre Dame University. Irish and Catholic, he and his wife Nancy had six children, Shaun, Casey, Kelly, Shannon, Terry and Meghan, a veteran of the war in Iraq.

For more information on the Character Development Program visit www.cmohedu.org. The Character Development Program brochure is available for download and printing. To read the full story of "Dead Men Flying," order the book at www.wndbooks.com or receive an autographed copy from www.generalbrady.com.



our people."

And courage and character are still what General Brady is about.

The Medal of Honor Society has formed a Character Development Program, which will soon have a permanent home in Charleston, South Carolina. Major James A. Taylor, U.S. Army (Ret.) said "We go out and talk to kids in schools, tell them about courage and sacrifice, selflessness, patriotism, in-

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