

In Memory of
Timothy J. Yost
CW2 – Pilot – Aircraft Commander
Dustoff 602

*.....There are special people in our lives who never leave us.....
Even after they're gone
D. Morgan*

October 24, 1949 – January 21, 2026



Timothy J. Yost, age 76, passed away peacefully at 3:40 a.m. on January 21, 2026, following treatment for lymphoma.

Tim was a man of quiet strength, integrity, and unwavering loyalty. Whether in military service, the fire service, or personal friendship, he was known as steady, disciplined, and deeply respected. Unassuming by nature, he possessed nerves of steel and a calm, resolute presence, even in the most stressful and dangerous situations. He earned the admiration of all who had the honor of serving alongside him.

Tim proudly served his country as a medical evacuation (Dustoff) helicopter pilot during the Vietnam War. He was assigned to the 236th Medical Detachment (Dustoff) in Da Nang, Vietnam, from 1970 to 1971.

Fellow Dustoff brothers remember him as an exceptional aviator who upheld the proud legacy of Dustoff—flying countless missions in an unarmed helicopter, often under enemy fire, to reach the wounded and transport them to lifesaving medical care.

For extraordinary heroism during the war, Tim was awarded the **Silver Star**, the nation’s third-highest military decoration for valor. After being shot down by enemy fire, he spent the night on the ground, guiding gunships, engaging the enemy, and caring for the injured soldiers that were onboard.

In recognition of his service as a Dustoff pilot, Tim was also a recipient of the **Congressional Gold Medal**, the nation’s highest civilian award. On September 26, 2024, President Joseph R. Biden Jr. signed the legislation awarding the medal, formally recognizing the extraordinary courage and sacrifice of all Dustoff crewmembers.

Following his military service, Tim began his career with the Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department on January 20, 1975. He retired on January 2, 2004, after 28 years of dedicated service. When the JFRD Hazardous Materials Team was established, Captain Yost was an original member and served with distinction. At the time of his retirement, he was the Captain of Fire Station 56 at Cecil Field.

After retiring, Tim moved to Pennsylvania to care for his elderly mother—a final testament to the devotion, humility, and sense of responsibility that defined his life.

In accordance with his wishes, Tim was cremated, and his remains will be interred at a National Cemetery in the Pittsburgh area. No service is planned.

Tim will be remembered not only for his courageous service to his country and community, but for his character, friendship, and the respect he showed to everyone he met. He will be deeply missed by all who had the privilege of knowing and serving with him.