



Biography

Lieutenant General Vines was born in Birmingham, Alabama, and was commissioned a Lieutenant of Infantry in 1971 through the ROTC program at the University of Alabama.

His previous assignments include Rifle Platoon Leader, Scout Platoon Leader, Company Executive Officer and Battalion S2 in the 3d Infantry Division, US Army Europe and Seventh Army; Ranger Instructor, Senior Tactical Officer and Company Commander Ranger Department, US Army Infantry Center, Fort Benning, Georgia; Company Commander and S3 in the 1st Ranger Battalion, Hunter Army Airfield, GA, and the original Executive Officer of the 3d Ranger Battalion at its activation at Fort Benning from 1984 until 1987.

Lieutenant General Vines has served in several command and staff assignments at Fort Bragg and within the XVIII Airborne Corps to include joint duty with the Joint Special Operations Command 1987-1989. He served as Commander, 4th Battalion, 325th Airborne Infantry Regiment 1989-1991, during its combat parachute assault in Operation Just Cause in Panama, and later when the unit was deployed as the first ground combat unit in Operation Desert Shield. His second tour of joint duty with the Joint Special Operations Command included operations with Task Force Ranger in Somalia 1992-1994; Commander, 2d Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), Fort Campbell, Kentucky; Assistant Division Commander for Operations, 82d Airborne Division 1996-1997; Chief of Staff, XVIII Airborne Corps and Fort Bragg 1997-1999; Chief of Office of Military Cooperation, Cairo, Egypt; Commander, 82d Airborne Division from August 2000 until October 2002; Commander, Coalition Task Force 82, in Afghanistan from 1 September 2002 until 1 May 2003; and then Commander, Combined/Joint Task Force-180, Bagram, Afghanistan, until October 2003; Commander, Multi-National Corps Iraq in Baghdad from January 2005 until January 2006. He concurrently served as Commanding General XVIII Airborne Corps from August 2003-December 2006. He retired from active duty on 1 February 2007.

His military education includes the United States Navy War College.

He holds a BS Degree in Chemistry from the University of Alabama and an MA Degree in National Security and Strategy from the Naval War College.

Lieutenant General Vines' awards and decorations include the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal (with Oak Leaf Cluster), Bronze Star Medal (with Two Oak Leaf Clusters), Combat Infantryman Badge, Master Parachutist Badge (with Bronze Service Star), Pathfinder Badge, and the Ranger Tab. He has commanded paratroopers in combat in four separate conflicts.

He is married to the former Pamela Ann McCraw of Bessemer, Alabama. They have two sons, Josh and Jake who served in Afghanistan and Iraq respectively.