

Senator Robert D. Robbins distinguished himself through outstanding service to the United States and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as a soldier and a legislator.

Born on 27 August 1944, in Greenville, Pennsylvania, Robbins graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1966. He served two tours of duty in Vietnam. His first tour was as an infantry company commander with the 101st Airborne Division. The Senator's second tour was a Senior Battalion Advisor to the Army of the Republic of Vietnam. After serving in Vietnam, Senator Robbins went on to become an instructor at the Army Ranger School, Eglin Air Force Base, Florida.

While serving in the Army, Senator Robbins received numerous awards and decoration including the Soldier's Medal for Heroism, the Bronze Star Medal for Valor, Combat Infantry Badge, Bronze Star Medals for Meritorious Service, an Army Commendation Medal for Valor, Army Commendation for Meritorious Service, Ranger Tab and Airborne Wings.

After his return to civilian life, Senator Robbins began a career of service to his community, first as a teacher and coach, and then as a member of the Pennsylvania General Assembly. Senator Robbins' political career started with his election to the state House of Representatives in 1982. In 1990, he moved into the Senate, where he has achieved a position of leadership.

As a leader of the Pennsylvania General Assembly, Senator Robbins has been steadfast in his support of the Pennsylvania National Guard. AS the prime sponsor of the Guard's Education Assistance Program, he led the effort to secure enactment of this vital legislation. Recognizing the importance of educational assistance to recruiting and retention, Senator Robbins' efforts helped make the Pennsylvania National Guard's education program one of the best in the Nation. His interest in the Pennsylvania National Guard and the Pennsylvania National Guard's programs didn't stop with his leadership on educational assistance. Senator Robbins served on the Governor's selection committee for the Adjutant General. He has participated in a wide range of Guard activities and events for Pennsylvania veterans.

In recognition of his outstanding support for the Pennsylvania National Guard and Pennsylvania veterans, Senator Robbins was the first inductee into the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs Hall of Fame. He is the recipient of the Pennsylvania National Guard Associations' "Order of Benjamin Franklin" in honor of his support of the Guard as a legislator and leader. As a leader of vision and remarkable vigor, he has earned recognition and praise not just for his support of the Pennsylvania National Guard, but for his leadership in numerous community and state activities.

The singularly distinctive accomplishments of Senator Robert D. Robbins as a soldier, a teacher, a community leader, a legislator and a leader in support of the Pennsylvania National Guard reflect great credit upon himself, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the Pennsylvania Air National Guard and warrant his induction into the Pennsylvania Air National Guard Hall of Fame.