

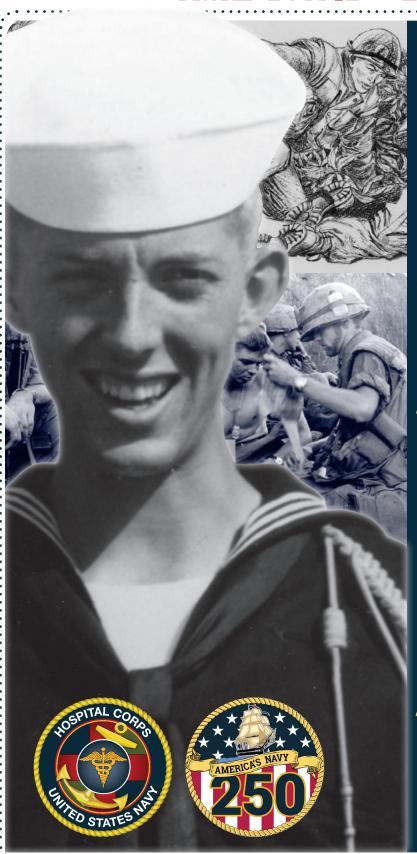
NAVY MEDICINE FAST FACTS

Special Edition 20 2025



-- NAVY HOSPITAL CORPS LEGENDS -- HM2 DAVID "BOBBY" RAY





- A native of McMinnville, Tennessee, David Robert Ray (1945-1969) grew up with a strong sense of service, excelling as a Boy Scout, a trombonist in his school band, and an athlete. He enlisted in the Navy in March 1966.
- After hospital corps school, Ray went through Field Medical Service School and was assigned to a Marine unit deploying to Vietnam.
- On March 19, 1969, during a surprise North Vietnamese Army attack on a Marine base at Phu Loc 6, Ray provided emergency aid to wounded Marines. Despite being wounded and under heavy fire, he crawled to shield a fallen Marine from a grenade blast, saving the Marine's life at the cost of his own. He was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for his heroism.
- Ray has been honored as the namesake of a destroyer (DD-963), two medical clinics, a bachelor enlisted quarters, and an elementary school.