

HONORS & AWARDS:

- On February 17th, 1969, Texas Lieutenant Governor, Ben Barnes addressed a joint session of the Senate and House of Representatives to introduce a Senate Resolution recognizing Mr. Baines for his distinguished service in Vietnam. Mr. Baines and his mother, who also attended the ceremony, received a standing ovation.
- At 30-years of age, Mr. Baines was recognized as an "Outstanding Young Texan" by Who's Who in Texas Business.
- On the morning of November 10th, 1981, President Ronald Reagan greeted Mr. Baines and a small contingent of Vietnam Veterans in a Rose Garden reception, at the White House, to announce the President's newly created Vietnam Veterans Leadership Program. Mr. Baines served as a co-chairman from 1981 to 1984.
- During President George H. W. Bush's administration, Mr. Baines was nominated for an appointment to Assistant Secretary of the Navy. He was passed over in the final selection process but was honored to have been nominated.
- On December 4th, 1986, the Mayor and City Council of San Antonio commended Mr. Baines for his "unselfish service and sacrifices for all veterans of our nation's conflicts, particularly those of the Vietnam War who shall always be remembered through your untiring efforts..." "The Mayor and City Council call to the attention of all citizens of San Antonio your very important contributions and hereby proclaim you as "Benefactor of the Community."
- As a result of Mr. Baines personal invitation; On July 28th, 1987, General Alfred M. Gray (29th Commandant of the Marine Corps) was the keynote speaker at a ceremony to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the battle of Hill-881 South and the Khe Sanh hill fights. Accompanying General Gray on his visit to San Antonio were future Assistant Commandant General Walter E. Boomer and the 11th Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps, David W. Sommers. Other members of the Commandant's staff members were also present.
- On August 18th, 1988, Mr. Baines was honored by the United States Marine Corps at a Meritorious Mast for his efforts to create "Hill-881 South", San Antonio's Vietnam Veterans Memorial.
- On September 2nd, 1988, Mr. Baines was an honored guest at the Commandant's House, Headquarters United States Marine Corps, Washington, DC. The following is an excerpt of a subsequent letter from the Commandant..." John, the dedication of San Antonio's Vietnam Veterans Memorial was a great day for Vietnam veterans and for America. Your dedicated professionalism and superior leadership made all of this happen. Your inspiring effort has earned the deepest respect of your Marine Corps, your Navy, of all the armed forces and from a grateful nation. Semper Fi – Al Gray, 29th Commandant, United States Marine Corps."
- Mr. Baines twice received recognition for the J.C. Penny Golden Rule Award as one of San Antonio's outstanding volunteers for his work on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. In 1987 he received a Second Place award and in 1991 he received the First Place award.

- On October 27th, 1992, Mr. Baines received a Citation from the City of San Antonio for his "Outstanding Service to the Community" as a member of the Riverwalk Commission.
- In 2020 the Greater San Antonio Chamber of Commerce selected Mr. Baines to serve as chairman of their 50th Anniversary of Celebrate America's Military. The two-week, fifty-event celebration was cancelled due to Covid-19 restrictions.
- Mr. Baines professional career, military service and his involvement in veteran related programs have been featured in magazine articles and hard cover books: New York Times, U.S. News & World Report ("Eight Viet Vets Who Came Out Winners"), Newsweek magazine, Texas Monthly magazine, Texas Highways magazine, Stars and Stripes, Navy Times, Marines magazine, Leatherneck magazine, Military Times, The Retired Officer magazine, Soldier of Fortune, Warriors Remembered, The Khe Sanh Hill Fights, The Art of War, and Vietnam – Even God was Against Us.