

Ballad of the Green Beret

By Staff Sergeant Barry Sadler and Robin Moore

*Fighting soldiers from the sky
Fearless men who jump and die
Men who mean just what they say
The brave men of the Green Beret*

*Silver wings upon their chest
These are men, America's best
One hundred men will test today
But only three win the Green Beret*

*Trained to live off nature's land
Trained in combat, hand-to-hand
Men who fight by night and day
Courage peak from the Green Berets*

*Silver wings upon their chest
These are men, America's best
One hundred men will test today
But only three win the Green Beret*

*Back at home a young wife waits
Her Green Beret has met his fate
He has died for those oppressed
Leaving her his last request*

*Put silver wings on my son's chest
Make him one of America's best
He'll be a man they'll test one day
Have him win the Green Beret.*



SCAN TO VIEW DIGITAL PROGRAM

CHANGE OF COMMAND

LIEUTENANT COLONEL

ELLIS MONK

&

LIEUTENANT COLONEL

SHANE MEDLEY



JOINT FORCE HEADQUARTERS

JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

FRIDAY

12 DECEMBER 2025

1:00 P.M.



LIEUTENANT COLONEL ELLIS MONK

Lieutenant Colonel Monk, enlisted in the United States Army in 1992 assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division where he was promoted to Sergeant and selected for the Green to Gold program in 1995 where he commissioned through the ROTC program at Jacksonville State University.

He was commissioned as an Infantry Officer in 1998, holding a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice from Jacksonville State University. He also earned a master's degree in business management from Webster University and a master's in strategic studies from the U.S. Army War College.

After completing Infantry Officer Basic Course, Lieutenant Colonel Monk served as infantry platoon leader, anti-tank platoon leader, and executive officer in the 10th Mountain Division. In 2001 he resigned his commission to focus on a career in the private sector.

After an 8-year break in service Lieutenant Colonel Monk joined the Mississippi National Guard to attend the Special Forces qualification course. He graduated and earned his special forces tab in 2009 and has served in multiple positions in 2nd Battalion 20th Special Forces Battalion and Special Operations Detachment South including Detachment Commander, Company Commander, Administrative Officer, and S3. During this time, he deployed to Afghanistan, Iraq, Africa, Kuwait, and Central and South America.

In 2022, Lieutenant Colonel Monk was selected to serve as the Deputy Chief of Staff for the Mississippi National Guard and the commander for 2nd Battalion 20th Special Forces Battalion.

In 2025, Lieutenant Colonel Monk was assigned to Joint Force Headquarter Mississippi National Guard as the Deputy Chief of Staff, Personnel. In this role, he leads a team of officers and enlisted Soldier tasked with personnel readiness and the management of personnel policy.

Lieutenant Colonel Monk awards include the Bronze Star, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Air and Space Commendation Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Joint Service Achievement medal, Army Commendation medal, Army Achievement medal, Senior Parachutist badge, Combat Infantry badge, Expert Infantry badge, Special Forces tab, and Ranger tab.

LTC Monk has been married to his wife Jennifer for 25 years, and they have 14-year-old twins Sophi and Liam.



LIEUTENANT COLONEL SHANE MEDLEY

LTC Shane Medley was born in Helena, MT. He enlisted in the Montana National Guard as an Infantryman in the wake of 9/11 and served as a Squad Designated Marksman in OIF III. He was commissioned from Officer Candidate School in 2008 as an Infantry officer.

LTC Medley is the Commander of 2nd Battalion, 20th SFG(A). He currently serves as the Administration Officer for 2nd BN, 20th SFG(A) as an AGR member of the MSARNG.

LTC Medley has deployed eight times in support of counter-terrorism objectives spanning Europe, Africa, and the Middle East since 2002.

As a civilian, LTC Medley has worked as a corporate consultant where he integrated into companies to help solve strategic problems. Similarly, he has worked for Accenture as a program manager providing technology to SOCOM and Interagency enterprises.

LTC Medley has a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Finance from the University of Montana, a Master of Business Administration (MBA) from the University of Arizona, a Master of Science (M.S.) in Cybersecurity Operations from Webster University, and a Master of Operational Studies (MOS) from the resident Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, KS.

LTC Medley is a Distinguished Leadership Graduate from the Special Forces Qualification Course at Fort Bragg, NC. He was also a Distinguished Honor Graduate from the Army Special Operations Advanced Course (ARSOFC), Infantry Officer Basic Course (IBOLC), Basic Officer Leader Course (BOLC II), and accelerated Officer Candidate School.

LTC Medley's decorations include the Purple Heart, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal, and Army Achievement Medal among others.



SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

ENTRANCE OF
OFFICIAL PARTY

INVOCATION

NATIONAL ANTHEM

RECOGNITION OF
FAMILY AND GUEST

HISTORY OF 2/20TH
SPECIAL FORCES
GROUP (AIRBORNE)

PRESENTATION OF
FLOWERS

PASSING OF THE UNIT
COLORS

POSTING OF THE
ORDER

OUTGOING
COMMANDER
REMARKS

INCOMING
COMMANDER
REMARKS

BALLAD OF THE
GREEN BERET