

James E. Bogle

1927-2022

We have received the sad news that Comrade James E. Bogle, a Life member of VFW Post 12074, a published author, and our Post's only World War II veteran, passed away peacefully in his sleep the morning of 3 March 2022. He was ninety-five years old.



Jim lived a full and satisfying life. He was a friend and confidant to many in the Chiang Mai area and throughout Thailand and the world.

Jim is survived by his adopted son, Boonsong, who flew in from the USA on Tuesday to be with his father. Boonsong was with Jim as he passed.

Comrade Bogle's body will be repatriated and buried in a military cemetery in the USA. VFW Post 12074 will render final honors at the Chiang Mai Foreign Cemetery later this month, which will allow friends and associates time to make travel arrangements.

His fellow VFW comrades will miss Jim at the Post's regular Tuesday morning Expat breakfast.

Comrade Bogle enlisted in June 1944 and served with the Army Air Corps during World War II. He served on active duty with the USAF

during the Korean War. Bogle remained in the Air Force reserves until honorably discharged in 1972.

James E. Bogle was born in Philadelphia and attended Pennsylvania Military College. After serving during World War II, he received a BFA from the School of Fine Arts, University of Pennsylvania.

Mr. Bogle, a charter member of the American Institute of Certified Planners, spent most of his professional career abroad with assignments in twenty-five countries in Africa, Asia, Europe, and South America. The majority of his work was in Asia. Mr. Bogle's first Asian assignment was the land planner for the Bangkok-Thonburi City Plan (1958-1960). Mr. Bogle was responsible for planning Malaysia's "Jengka Triangle," a 100,000-acre resettlement scheme in Malaysia, which the World Bank considers one of its outstanding Third World projects. Mr. Bogle was active during the war in Vietnam, preparing postwar plans for cities and infrastructure. Bogle also worked on new cities in Indonesia and the Philippines and was the Chief Planner for the three "New Industrial Cities" projects in Egypt. He was also the director of construction for the five-billion King Abdulaziz International Airport in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. Mr. Bogle was cited by the governments of Egypt, Guyana, Saudi Arabia, Thailand, and Vietnam for his work in those countries. While stationed in Thailand, Mr. Bogle became a founding member of the Mitrapab (Friendship) Educational Foundation, which raised money for several rural schools by holding parachute demonstrations. Mr. Bogle was made an honorary member of the Royal Thai Rangers parachute association.

His travels and interests allowed Jim Bogle to acquire an Asian art and paintings collection. In 2010 he gave fifty Southeast Asian paintings to the Walters Art Museum in Baltimore, Maryland. His book, *Thai and Southeast Asian Painting: 18th through 20th Centuries*, was published in 2011 by Schiffer Publishing. His second book, *Buddhist Cosmology: The Study of a Burmese Manuscript*, was released in July 2016 by Silkworm Books of Chiang Mai. A recent book, *An Irregular Life*, intended for limited use as a Thai Memorial book, was published in 2020 by an established Thailand publishing house.

Comrade James E. Bogle was an active member of VFW Post 12074, the Army-Navy Club of Washington, D.C., and the Royal Bangkok Sports Club. He maintained residences in Philadelphia and Chiang Mai, Thailand.