

RONALD J. COLLINS
Department of Connecticut
Marine Corps League
MARINE OF THE YEAR

Ronald J. Collins, the eldest of three children, was born in Hartford, CT, but grew up in Windsor, CT. Ron enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in 1959. After Parris Island and basic training at Camp Lejeune, Ron served on a “Med Cruise,” visiting such places as Sardinia and Greece and was stationed in Puerto Rico, Guam and Chi Chi Jima. Corporal Collins, an Infantry Rifleman and Radio Operator served in the 2nd Marine Division. Upon his honorable discharge from the Marines in 1964, Ron went to work with his father and helped established Collins Construction which provided the community with concrete flat work. In 1975 he married the love of his life, Carol. They lived in Manchester, CT for a year where their son David was born. During this time, with his father’s help, he built their current home in Windsor, CT.

Ron is an active member of the Marine Corps League. He was the Southington Memorial Detachment’s Jr Vice Commandant for 5 years. After transferring to the Hardware City Detachment, Ron has held the offices of Judge Advocate for 3 terms and Pack Leader for the Military Order of the Devil Dogs where he is proud of his work helping to organize the Annual Picnic at Cromwell Children’s Home and the monthly Bingo Nights at the Rocky Hill Veterans Home. Ron is also a committed member of the Hardware City Wake and Funeral Details. He is proud of his work with Toys for Tots and his support of the Marines at the Reserve Center in Plainville, CT. On the state level, Ron is Hartford County Commandant and has been the Department Americanism Chairman for the past 5 years. On the national level, Ron has served for 2 years on the Kennel Staff of the MODD and has served for three years as the New England Division Aide de Camp.

Outside of the MCL, Ron is a member of the NRA and the 2nd Marine Division Association. He is a 43-year member of the 1st Connecticut Volunteer Infantry-North South Skirmish Association, a black powder, competition group and has served as their Commander for 28 years. He currently encamps throughout New England, New York and Virginia participating in Civil War era shooting competitions. Ron is a member of the American Legion and the Windsor Marksman Gun Club. He is a faithful usher at his church in Poquonock and is currently in his 16th year as a member of the Poquonock Volunteer Fire Department.

Ron and Carol will be celebrating their 35th wedding anniversary in July. Recently they became the proud grandparents of Ryan Joseph, born to David and Jenna Collins.

If Semper Fidelis were to apply to an individual, it would certainly apply to Ron Collins. His faithfulness to God, country, family and Marine Corps is evident in the way Ron Lives his life.

Ronald J. Collins is a Marine’s Marine.
