

Melvin Raymond Chatman, Jr.



Melvin Raymond Chatman, Jr., retired Foreign Service Officer with the U.S. Agency for International Development, died December 2, 2023, in Aldie, Virginia, at the age of 83. Mr. Chatman was born September 28, 1940, in Chandler, Oklahoma. He earned a bachelor's degree from Western Michigan University in 1962. After serving in the U.S. Army for six years, Mr. Chatman joined the Foreign Service.

At the beginning of his career with USAID in Vietnam, Mr. Chatman coordinated the Saigon evacuation transportation for which he was awarded the Medal of Honor. In addition to his post in Vietnam, he also served in Bangladesh, El Salvador, South Korea, Spain, Thailand, and Washington.

Mr. Chatman retired in 1998 after almost 30 years with the Department of State. In retirement, he wrote a book detailing his family roots, pursued a master's degree in creative writing, and spent years working with his wife to establish an urgent care clinic in South Riding, Virginia.

Mr. Chatman is survived by his wife of 40 years, Anita; a son, Farouk; two siblings, Whit and Susan; and his mother, Joan Taylor.

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