

Howard Rolf Hong obituary

Passing of retired USAF Office of Special Investigations (OSI) Special Agent (Lt Col) Howard Rolf Hong. (Adapted from Ken Sejin, USAF/OSI Special Agent)



Ralph and Penny Hong Rookery, 2013

It is with great sadness that I post the passing of retired Lt. Col. Rolf Hong, age 81, on August 12, 2024, in Doctors Regional Hospital in Corpus Christi, Texas. His wife of 47+ years, Penny, and son, Brian were with him. He was born 11/06/1942 in Northfield, MN, the second oldest of what became a large family of 8 children. His parents were Dr. Howard Hong and Edna Hatlestad Hong of St. Olaf College.

Rolf was my first Detachment Commander when I arrived as a new agent at OSI Detachment 1108, Carswell AFB, TX. He was an awesome, calm commander with a great sense of humor who was proud of his Norwegian heritage and hailed from Minnesota. During my time at the Detachment (1974-1976), I recall other co-workers who worked for Rolf

(whom we called "Chief") -- Secretary Aline Quenon, and Special Agents Steve Minger, Ron Watson, Doug Crewse, Bob Cote, Chuck Poston, Bob Montgomery, Bob Amaon and Mary Dickey. Rolf had earlier (1970-71) served as OSI Detachment Commander in Danang, Vietnam. After leaving active duty as a Captain, Rolf remained in the USAF/OSI Reserve program, retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel. In his civilian occupation he rose to the ranks of a Senior Foreign Service Officer with the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)/Office of the Inspector General, serving in Cairo, Egypt, and Nairobi, Kenya, as well as in USAID/Washington.

He leaves to mourn his passing his wife Penny, who was also a Foreign Service Officer in USAID, and three children (Krestin, Brian, Karyn); seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.