

Death of a comrade

The Army War College regretfully announces the death of a valued member of the military community.

Colonel Steven Lee Rohlena died in his home in Carlisle on July 30.

Col. Rohlena was a member of the Army War College resident Class of 2011. He had recently returned to Carlisle to take a position as the Senior Advisor for Strategic Logistics in the Peacekeeping and Stability Operations Institute of the U.S. Army War College.

Col. Rohlena, 49, was previously assigned in Brussels, Belgium, where he served as logistics advisor to the U.S. Mission to NATO. His 26-year career spanned the globe with assignments of increasing responsibility in Army Logistics. He served in Operation Restore Democracy in Haiti, and in Operation Iraqi Freedom, in Saudi Arabia. He commanded a Transportation Company at Fort Lewis, Washington in the 1990s, and the Transportation Battalion in Korea, first in Seoul and later in Daegu. He then served as Deputy Commander of the 593d Sustainment Brigade at Fort Lewis with deployment as the Deputy Commander-Kuwait. His multiple medals and honors include the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal with silver oak leaf cluster, the Joint Service Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster, the Korea Defense Service Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and the United Nations Medal.

A native of Iowa, Col. Rohlena earned a bachelor's degree from Iowa State University in 1987, a master's in Administration/ Management from Central Michigan University in 2001, and a master's in Strategic Studies from the Army War College in 2011.

He is survived by his wife, Rita Spreu; his parents Marvin and Bonnie Rohlena of Iowa; and his brother and sister-in-law Jeffrey and Nancy Rohlena.

Celebration of Life services will be 10:30 a.m. Monday, August 18, 2014 at St. Ludmila's Catholic Church in Cedar Rapids. The family will greet friends from 4 until 7 p.m. Sunday, August 17, 2014 at Brosh Chapel in Cedar Rapids, located at 2121 Bowling Street SW.

After services in Iowa, Colonel Rohlena will be laid to rest at Arlington National Cemetery in honor of his decades of service to the United States of America.

