**Francis P. McLaughlin**, 57, passed away on November 18, 2003 of a heart attack, in Riverside, California. Francis was born in Waltham, Massachusetts on March 21, 1946 to Dororthy and Francis P. McLaughlin Sr. He was preceded in death by our parents. He is survived by me, his sister, Janis McCormack, his nieces Jandy Papineau and Tricia Reutebuch, his step daughter, Kristen Rupnik.

Francis attended Thornridge High School, Dolton, IL, where he was active in football, drama club, National Honor Society as well as other clubs. Upon graduating, he attended the University of Chicago where he earned a B.S. in Mathematics. He had changed his major from nuclear physics to mathematics after his freshman year. After graduation, he enlisted in the United States Army. We were all so very proud of him. He graduated from Officer Candidate School at Fort Belvoir, VA. Following his graduation from OCS, he did a tour of duty in Viet Nam. Upon his return home, he enrolled in the School of Business at the University of Chicago where he earned his Master’s Degree in Business. He remained in the Reserves for a number of years after active duty. He had worked as a management consultant for Price Waterhouse after earning his Master’s Degree. He had dabbled in other occupations including starting a private equity investment firm. His last occupation was working from home doing Day Trading.

Fran loved to cook! He attended the Cordon Bleu School of Cooking in France to help improve his culinary skills. He also enjoyed driving and owning corvettes. He had owned several corvettes during his lifetime and attended the Bondurant School of Driving in California to fine-tune his fast driving abilities. He truly seemed to be enjoying life and he was taken very suddenly and too early.

My daughter, Jandy, wanted to share how Fran impacted her life and inspired her to take chances and not be intimidated by others; to find her strengths and shine. With those words of wisdom, she has pursued her goals and has attained many of them in her life.

There are many adjectives I can use to describe my brother. But the ones that come first to my mind are that Francis was a brilliant, caring, devoted and loyal person who was not only my big brother, but my best friend and hero. He is and will always be sadly missed by his family.

**FRANCIS P MCLAUGHLIN JR**

Fran was the Distinguished Academic Graduate of 22Hotel69 and served in the Adjutant General Corps.

Fran has passed away. There is no published obituary but here are some thoughts about Fran from his fellow officer candidates:

In high school, Fran was President of the National Honor Society, a starter on the football team, and received an academic scholarship to the University of Chicago. His intended major was Nuclear Physics!!

Fran was a "real" man. Real sincere, real smart, real strong, real committed and real supportive of his classmates. I can still see him leaning over to tutor some of us who needed additional help in engineering matters. He took his role effectively and seriously. He find humor in our situation and wasn't afraid to be laughed at if it helped ease our way.

(It has been said) that "he did not belong in the Army." The same could be said of many in that era. Fran, however, was committed to fulfilling his obligations to the best of his very good abilities. I'm sure he was a force for good and efficiency for the balance of his post OCS Army life.

His passing tugs away at the foundation of our OCS class. A big rock has been removed. We carry on ever more precipitously. Our wishes: Rest well Francis P. McLaughlin. You are held carefully in our hearts.

He was not very open with most of his fellow OCS’ers maybe because he was a strong, tough looking dude who appeared to be dull and scary. Not so. Fran went to Univ of Chicago on a full math scholarship. That, in itself, impressed me. Very well read, analytical. Did not belong in the army, no, he was more of a think tank guy. Took no bullshit, either. Physically, probably the strongest in our class. In a barroom brawl, I would want to be on his side. So, when I learned of his passing, I was very surprised. He looked too solid and strong. I think that it was a heart condition so no telling when he would go. Very sad.

I believe from reading "The Days of Hotel" that Fran was also a very good academic mentor! His intelligence combined with his toughness would certainly "inspire" others!

“Day of the Blast – 2 May 1969

N. B. C. - - Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical Warfare Operations. All about gas, bugs, and atom bombs - - and we were to be tested at 0800. As we tightened up the billets, after breakfast, the good Academics Officer McLaughlin put out the poop, his voice booming above the house keeping sounds. “S. A. S.” - - special ammunition storage, SPECIAL AMMUNITION STORAGE, is when the weapons are stored and are the responsibility of Ordnance. This is opposed to “S. A. L.” . . . .” We were getting accustomed to OC Mac’s pre-exam cram sessions - - and finding them useful. As for the NBC test, well, it was sort of a blast. Judging from the depth of the crater blown out of our academic average, I’d say the yield of the weapon . . . .”

I can still hear Fran's deep voice booming out the academic preparation of the day across the barracks of the first platoon. He was a very smart, impressive leader and one of the big reasons I remain so proud to be a 22 Hotel graduate.

Thanks for filling in the rest of the information, some which I knew but had forgotten. The rest was new to me but adds to Fran's background as an intelligent and tough guy. He could have played college football as well as majored in nuclear physics, if he wanted to. A unique individual, as we all are.