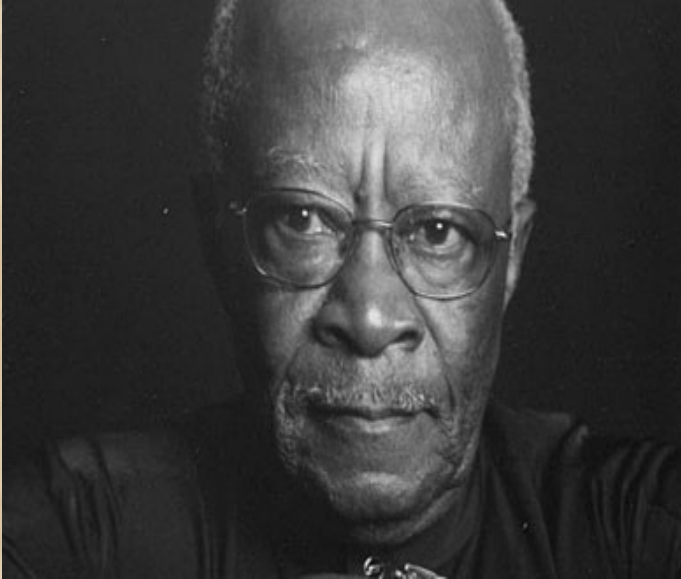




# Railsplitter Obituary



## **Vance Coleman**

**22 May 1930 - 31 August 2021**

Vance Coleman, age 91, of Sun City, Arizona passed away on Tuesday, August 31, 2021. Vance was born May 22, 1930.

MG Coleman commanded the 84<sup>th</sup> Division (Tng).

MG Coleman resided in Sun City, Arizona in his retirement.

Video appearances of MG Coleman are available on C-Span.  
Paste this url into your web browser or click on the link below:

<https://www.c-span.org/person/?1029391/VanceColeman>

Open a PDF featuring an interview with then BG Coleman by the Wisconsin Veterans Museum Research Center.

See below.



# Railsplitter Obituary

In this oral history interview, Vance Coleman, a Milwaukee, Wisconsin native, discusses his Korean War service with the 623rd Field Artillery and his experiences as a black soldier in the recently integrated Army.

Coleman talks about Quartermaster School at Fort Lee (Virginia) and his assignment to Germany including his duties as a clerk, recreation activities, and attitudes of Germans toward Americans. He details Officer Candidate School at Fort Sill (Oklahoma) where he was the only black graduate of his class and his initial assignment with the 31st Infantry in Alabama although he was later reassigned due to his race. Coleman describes his duties as an artillery officer in Korea, artillery firing and maintenance processes, and problems caused by Korean weather such as frostbite and the danger of freezing to death. He touches upon his experience in a military hospital, duties with the First Cavalry in Japan and use of the GI Bill. Coleman comments on joining the Reserves, taking courses from the War College, current decline in enlistment numbers, benefits of service, and treatment of blacks in the military.

Paste this url into your web browser or click on the link below:

<https://wisvetsmuseum.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/Coleman-Vance-OH65.pdf>