



1955

CHS Bio

John Getgood Military Hero

No current photo available. John is unable to attend our 50th reunion

Attended the Military Academy at West Point graduating in 1960. Commissioned in Armor branch and qualified as a paratrooper and Ranger prior to my first duty assignment as a Second Lieutenant- Platoon leader in the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment in Germany. Left Germany in 1964 after commanding troops in both the 11th Cav and 3rd Cav. After attending the Armor Career Course at Fort Knox I attended Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore and received a Master's Degree in Chemistry as a prelude to a faculty assignment at West Point. That was side-tracked by a tour as S-3 (Operations) officer with the 3rd Squadron 11th ACR in Vietnam - went thru the 1968 Tet Offensive. After a three year tour teaching Chemistry at West Point I returned to Viet Nam for a second tour - this time as a District Senior Advisor to the Vietnamese Government - went thru the 1972 Easter Offensive in an isolated and surrounded compound - successfully resolved in our favor.

Back to United States and student at the Command and Staff College in Kansas. Next was a stint as Executive Officer of a Tank Battalion in Germany followed by command of the 2nd Squadron, 2nd Cavalry in Bamberg, Germany. After Squadron command spent two years in a very rewarding assignment on the Army Staff in the Pentagon - got to address congressional sub-committees on many occasions as a program manager. Attended the US Army War College at Carlisle Barracks and headed off to Ft Knox as the Armor Center installation G-3 (Operations). Last assignment was as Deputy Chief of Staff for Training at the Training and Doctrine Command at Fort Monroe Virginia. Retired in 1990 as a Colonel. Military decorations during 30 year career included - **2 Silver Stars, 5 Bronze Stars (2 for Valor), 2 awards of the Legions of Merit, 2 Meritorious Service Medals, 5 Air Medals, the Combat Infantryman's Badge and numerous lesser awards** (*bolding and color mine - Fred Benford*)

After retirement worked as Director of Corporate Development for a Telecommunications Defense Contractor in Virginia Beach for 13 years. In 2003 Betty and I moved to our Farm in the Blue Ridge Mountains of south-west Virginia and are enjoying life as Gentle Farmers.

Along the way married twice, 2 children by first marriage and two step children by second - a surgeon in Richmond and nurse manager in the Greenville SC Health System - 5 Grandchildren, 3 horses, many Chickens, a dog, a cat, and many fish in aqua-culture ventures.