

## USMA 1970 Serve With Integrity Awardees



Class of 1970

Hall of Honor

Serve With Integrity Award - As Of 15 April 2025

Recognizing those classmates who have performed exceptional service to the Nation, the Military, West Point, or the Class.

Recipients (in order of the SWI Award being given)

**Dr. Dave Brown** [Dr. Dave Brown Legacy Book Entry](#)

**Earl Albright** for exceptional service to the Class as our Class Historian and faithful scribe for 25 years. Earl's monthly "Class Notes" kept us connected in a very special and personal way — creating Class unity and spirit. Much of this was accomplished while Earl was still serving on active duty.

**Jim Crawford (I-2)** for exceptional service to our Academy and our Class through his distinguished military career and as the founder, architect, and administrator of the Class of 1970 Golf Tour for 28 years. In addition to building camaraderie and Class spirit, Jim's "mulligans" contributed over \$200,000 to the Class of 1970 Fund.

**Frank Monaco (B-4)** for exceptional service to our Class as our Class Information Officer for nearly 30 years. Frank's expertise and tireless dedication kept our Class informed of every significant issue and

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initiative, much of the time while he was still serving on active duty. Frank also served as co-chair of our 40th reunion and co-chair and chair of our 45th reunion.

**Joe Reeder (E-1)** for exceptional service to our military as Under-Secretary of the Army and to our Class for something dear to every heart in grey — beating the heck out of Navy. For 37 years Joe and his wonderful wife Kate have hosted GO ARMY/Beat Navy rallies at their home. Hundreds of our classmates have attended these spirited events — which are always filled with song and cheer. Joe brought us together every year in a very special and truly memorable way.

**Steve Strom (A-2)** for exceptional service to our Class as Class Chief Giving Officer beginning in 2016. Steve's signature accomplishment was leading our 50 Year Reunion Gift Campaign which well exceeded both the financial target and the Class participation rate. As a result of this outstanding success, the Class gift of the Cyber Conference was fully funded as was the MacArthur Cup.

**Bill Taylor (A-4)** for exceptional service to West Point and the Class of 1970. His outstanding contributions include Class Fund-Raising Chairman; founder of the West Point Society of Annapolis, Maryland; 27 years of service to the WPAOG; and founder of Virtual West Point, Inc.

The Happy Daze (**Larry Henderson, Tom Maertens, Tom Dueker, Mike Glawe, Joe Henn, Vic Ross, Lanny White,** and Bob Walker) for exceptional service as the Class Band. The Happy Daze motivated, thrilled, and consoled the Class throughout our cadet years and on through our reunions and other class gatherings.

**Barney Forsythe (C-1)** served the Academy as a Professor of Psychology and later as Vice Dean. He created a master's degree program for Company Tactical Officers, established the Center for Leadership and Organizations Research, and was part of a core group that created the Cadet Leader Development Program. He served the Nation by developing a leadership program at the Bangladesh Military Academy and led a multinational team which designed an Afghan Military Academy. He served the Class as VP, conceived the National Conference on Ethics in America, and chaired three class reunions and the Class of 70 Gift Selection Committee.

**Ross Kelly (F-1)** distinguished himself in leading the defense of a South Vietnamese battalion against superior numbers and North Vietnamese armor. He repeatedly exposed himself to enemy fire while calling in multiple airstrikes, some within twenty-five meters of his own front lines. After a week of combat, surrounded, outnumbered, and almost out of ammunition, Ross led the remnants of the 6th Airborne to break out from encirclement. He was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, the only member of the Class to be so honored. Ross continued to serve his nation, retiring from the Army Reserve as a colonel. An expert in his field, Ross authored two books on special operations and low intensity conflict, which have been used in West Point instruction.

**Bill Cater (C-1)** served as a class representative and mentor at over 20 National Conferences on Ethics in America (NCEA). As Class Chief Financial Officer (CFO) he managed oversight of Class Funds totally over \$8 million; recruited a major donor who provided over \$450,000 to the NCEA endowment; and with other classmates, raised an additional \$100,000 for the NCEA. He assisted Lynn Moore to establish and endow the MacArthur Cup, one of several gifts made to West Point for our 50th Reunion.

**Jeff Gault (C-4)** has been instrumental in the growth of the Army Scholarship Foundation (ASF). Following 29 years of distinguished service, which included a Desert Shield/Storm combat tour, Jeff became the CEO & Chairman of the ASF. Under his leadership, the all-volunteer team raised sufficient funds to award 1,400 scholarships to Army family members. Under Jeff's watch, eligibility for undergraduate scholarships was expanded to include not only the deserving children of current and former members of the U.S. Army but, additionally, the spouses of currently serving soldiers. This is truly an example of selfless service.

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**Dick Beahm (B-4)** has been riding his bike to raise donations for the National MS Society for 27 years. He recruited members to form the WEEDA BEAHM TEAM, which peaked at 48 members, all earning money for MS. The TEAM has raised more than \$700,000, with \$372,000 raised personally by Dick. Even during the 2020 COVID year, when the 3 MS rides were canceled, Dick rode the 50-60 miles on those days to "earn the donations provided" since, according to Dick, "the folks suffering from Multiple Sclerosis still needed help during the Pandemic." In a typical year, Dick rode 7-10 thousand miles, riding for MS and, of course, training for those rides.

**Dave Allbee** for exceptional service to our Class and USMA during his 41 years of continuous active duty, culminating in inclusion in the elite Corps of Professors and Head of an Academic Department. During his tenure he transformed the Department of Chemistry into the Department of Chemistry and Life Science. He was the nucleus for the Academy's first center of excellence, the Photonic Research Center, and represented the Academy on the NCAA academic certification committee. 35% of the Long Gray Line was admitted to USMA during his tenure as Chair of the Admissions Committee. It can truly be said that Dave Allbee significantly influenced future generations of West Point leaders.

**Bill Trivette** for exceptional service throughout a 23-year military career as an Infantry and later a JAG officer and lifetime support to the Class of 1970. Bill has represented the Class at every Camp Buckner March Back since its establishment in 2000 and organized a virtual March Back when COVID cancelled the 2020 event. Bill organized the 50-Year Affiliation March Back, with a record of 260 classmates participating. In 2006, Bill helped found the West Point Society of the Piedmont, was elected as their first president, and still serves. Bill organized four tailgates for the Army–Wake Forest football games, the last of which was attended by 1,400. He also serves as the State Coordinator for the West Point admissions field force in North Carolina.

**Gus Lee**, honorary member of the Class of 1970, for exceptional service to the Class of 1970, the Army, and to the ethical fabric of our Nation. Gus has excelled in every role imaginable, from supporting his family as a 9-year-old janitor to drill sergeant to senior Army and civilian legal positions to corporate leadership. He is a well-respected expert in the study and teaching of ethical leadership; his eighth book will be published this year. For the past 30 years he has been tireless in his support for West Point faculty and cadets, SCPME, and the Class of 70 NCEA. Gus Lee has dedicated his life to the embodiment of Duty, Honor, Country, and the Class motto of "Serve with Integrity."

**Wally Kaine** for exemplary service in the Army as an active-duty and reserve officer and life-long service to West Point and the Class of 1970. Wally led the creation of our graduation yearbook and fifty years later led the creation of the "Legacy Book." This was much more than an artistic achievement. Wally organized the class to capture stories of all classmates, living and passed. When other Legacy Books had a response rate of 50%, ours was 100% due to his persistence and focus on excellence. While assigned to West Point Admissions and OIC of the Rabble Rousers, Wally also produced the idea of closing a competitive game with the Alma Mater rather than the Long Corps Yell. Thus, the tradition of the "Second Sing" was created.

**Richard "Dick" A. Green** was born in Pottstown, Pennsylvania and entered West Point from Glen Rock, New Jersey. Those who knew him well said he saw the best in everyone and could always be counted on to be a friend. Dick was a proud member of Company B-1, which he considered to be the toughest company in the toughest Regiment in the Corps. The discipline may have challenged his rebellious streak but never conquered it. Dick constantly stretched the limits of regulations, especially when it came to his hair. Dick branched Military Intelligence with a detail to Armor. He joined F Troop, 2nd Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment in Vietnam on 11 October 1971. He was killed in action less than two months later, on 3 December 1971. For his actions, Dick was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with V Device for Heroism. Dick's favorite retort was "Well what can I say?" For Dick Green, much can be said for the way he lived and the way he gave his life in the service of his nation. Richard A. Green is interred in Cedar Lawn Cemetery, Paterson, New Jersey. His name is inscribed in the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Panel 02W, Line 83.

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**Howard Marshall “Stein” Steinfeld** - Those who knew him well describe Stein as a man of many talents - farmer, scholar, soldier, and friend. As an Army Brat, Marshall was well traveled but his heart remained in Texas. After his father retired from the Army, the family returned there to the family farm. Stein was a star man for much of his cadet career, and he was among the top of our class in chemistry. He was fluent in German and spent one cadet summer in Germany for Army Orientation Training. While usually quiet and studious, he had a mischievous sense of humor and would often entertain his classmates with the ballad from High Noon. He spent graduation leave touring Germany by motorcycle. Stein branched Corps of Engineers and immediately volunteered for Vietnam, joining the 101st Airborne Division in Vietnam during the summer of 1971. Stein was supervising the repair of a church in Phu Bai which had been damaged in a typhoon, when he was taken from us, doing what he loved most, leading soldiers in the service of our nation. Howard M. Steinfeld is interred in St Matthew Lutheran Church Cemetery, Sandy Hill, Texas. His name is inscribed in the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Panel 02W, Line 65.

**Kennard E. Gillihan** - Ken was born in Salem, Illinois on 13 November 1947. He brought to West Point a great sense of humor, a natural friendliness, and the ability to see the bright side of any situation. Ken is remembered as normally quiet and reserved but could morph into a spirited and energetic rabble rouser. His kind and gentle demeanor also belied his talents as a boxer who reached the Brigade Championship. He was involved in many activities as a cadet, but he most cherished the Sport Parachute Club. Ken became a highly proficient jumper, made hundreds of jumps, served as the Club’s Vice President, and placed in the National Skydiving Championships. It is ironic that Ken was killed during a jump in Ranger School. High winds and his heroic efforts to avoid interference with another jumper overwhelmed his extensive skills. He died as he lived, in the service of his nation, a sense of duty, and an unselfish sense of concern for another soldier. Kennard E. Gillihan is interred in Odin, Illinois.

**Randall A. Carlson** - Randy Carlson was born in Trumbull, Connecticut. A knob year at the Citadel gave him all the skills he needed to excel as a plebe at West Point. He freely shared that knowledge with classmates which earned him the moniker “Spoon.” Randy was a member of the Cadet Pep Band, leading rallies and after-taps forays. He is also remembered as being a strong Christian, having passion for fairness and a sincere sense of selfless service to others. After graduation, Randy served as an Armored platoon leader in Germany and transferred to Military Intelligence Corps. His analysis of Soviet armor captured by Israel paid dividends in designing the M1/M2 series of combat vehicles. Subsequent assignments included teaching French at West Point. His final assignment was to the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization, Occupied Territories (Palestine). On 25 September 1982, Randy volunteered to perform a surveillance mission for another officer. He was killed with three other UN officers when their vehicle ran over a mine. Randy died as he lived: in service to God, to country, to peace, and to his fellow man. Randall A. Carlson is interred in West Point Cemetery, West Point, NY.

**Robert N. Brown** - Bob Brown was born in South Bend, Indiana. He entered West Point with an unbridled enthusiasm, a love for the Academy, and tremendous zeal and self-motivation. One of Bob’s many contributions as a cadet was as the manager of the swimming team. During one meet, the opposing team had no entrants for the one-meter dive and the West Point team only had one participant of a possible two allocations. Bob changed into his swimming trunks and competed. Reportedly his effort was tremendous but performance atrocious. The points still counted. Bob also tutored classmates in Electrical Engineering. The time and effort he put into this endeavor earned him the nickname “Pop.” Bob branched Military Intelligence Corps with a detail in Infantry. Characteristically, Bob enthusiastically accepted the assignment and volunteered for Vietnam. Bob was assigned to Company A, 1st Battalion, 506th Infantry, 101st Airborne Division. On 15 October, with barely a month in country, he was seriously wounded by a land mine while leading his platoon in combat. He died four days later. Bob “Pop” Brown died fighting for the ideals and principles that symbolize his country. Robert N. Brown is interred in Bloomington, Indiana. His name is inscribed in the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Panel 02W, Line 44.

**John M. Minor** You could not be in a bad mood in the company of Mike Minor. He had an infectious smile and always saw the best in everything and everyone. Mike was a third-generation West Pointer and his respect and admiration for the Academy bordered on reverence. As a cadet Mike distinguished himself



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academically and on the soccer field. He followed his father's footsteps and branched Air Force. In March 1972, Mike was serving with the 8th Special Operations Squadron, 377th Air Base Wing, in Vietnam. He was flying an A37 attack aircraft and returning from an air-to-ground attack on a North Vietnamese position. Mike's aircraft was damaged as was his commander's. His commander was also wounded. Mike would not leave a wounded comrade, so he accompanied the crippled aircraft to base and escorted the wounded pilot in his approach for a safe landing. As Mike circled the base for his own landing, he was hit by enemy ground fire and crashed. For his actions Mike was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal. Mike never had the opportunity to meet his son, Mike Junior, born on 4 July 1972. Mike Jr, graduated with the West Point Class of 1994. John M. Minor is interred in the West Point Cemetery, West Point, NY. His name is inscribed in the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Panel 02W, Line 116.

**John T. Connors (A-2)**, Class First Captain and two-time All-American in Lacrosse, honorably completed his military obligation, and began a distinguished 36-year legal career. John served as our Class Vice President for over 22 years, participated in leadership and Class Ethics conferences at West Point, and was a member of the 2013 AOG Nominating Committee. He provided legal and governance advice to our two Class Presidents, made significant contributions to the Class Revolutionary War Project, and played a major role in establishing an Army Lacrosse foundation.

**James McHone (D-3)** completed a 30-year career as an orthopedic surgeon in civilian and military practice, retiring as a Colonel, USAR. During Desert Shield/Storm, Jim served as the Army Football Team Physician and also supported West Point as the South Carolina USMA Admissions Coordinator. In 1997 he was appointed to the AOG Board of Trustees. Jim worked tirelessly as the chair of our 40th Reunion and was preparing for the 45th Reunion when he succumbed to cancer.

**John Boslego (D-3)**, retired as a colonel after 25-years on active duty as a military doctor and medical researcher. His service included duty in Thailand as Director of the Armed Forces Research Institute of Medical Sciences, where he led research and development programs for treatments and vaccines against a myriad of infectious diseases. Of special note is his service with a non-profit global health organization where John built teams to develop vaccines and disease prevention protocols.

**Marshall Larsen (F-2)** left active duty for a 35+ year career with BF Goodrich — concluding as Chairman and CEO. He chaired the Aerospace Industries Association and has served his community as Chairman, Charlotte, NC Regional Partnership — leading fund raising for the Charlotte Hospitality House. Marshall supported West Point and the Class of 1970 financially and through active participation in NCEA and other leadership forums. He established an endowment to perpetually fund the USMA Cadet Cyber Operations Exercise.

**John Cogbill III (G-4)** demonstrated extraordinary leadership and tenacity to recognize our veterans' service and sacrifices. As a member and chair of the Virginia War Memorial Foundation Board, John's selfless service raised \$8 million in private funds to honor Virginians killed during Vietnam, Desert Storm/Shield and the Global War on Terror. As Chairman of the National Capital Planning Commission, John's skillful lobbying overcame bureaucratic and political obstacles to win approval of the World War II Memorial.

**Phil Harris (A-1)** served with distinction in Vietnam overcoming serious combat wounds to become a world leader in Electrical Utility Industry. In 2005 the Platts Global Awards recognized him as the CEO of the Year. As a volunteer, he played a pivotal role in integrating and synchronizing the power systems of Moldova and Ukraine with the Continental European Synchronous Area, which earned him recognition as the Volunteer of the Year by the U.S. Energy Association. Phil has discretely donated funds to the Academy and has frequently shared his experience and expertise with faculty and cadets. Phil is a humble, self-made man who made his community, his nation, and the world a better place.

**Lynn Moore (B-3)** distinguished himself on the football and lacrosse fields as a cadet. He followed that with a distinguished 29-year military career leading soldiers in combat in Viet Nam and Panama and commanding

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at every level from platoon to brigade, retiring as a colonel. Lynn's contributions to his class and academy include being an ardent supporter, participant, and host of the annual Class Golf outings. He led the creation of the MacArthur Cup Award for Athletics Endowment to instill a winning ethos at the Academy and promote excellence in cadet development and team athletics. Lynn is best remembered as a quiet but extremely effective leader and a faithful friend.

**B. Joseph Alexander (C-2)** distinguished himself during a 22-year Army career, a leader in the Defense Community, and in volunteer service in the Huntsville, Alabama community. As President, Camber Corporation, he grew the company from \$6 million in annual sales to \$440 million, significantly contributing to the readiness of the US and allied militaries. BJ has been an ardent supporter of West Point and is a member of the Pershing Society. The Alexanders were founding members of the Community Foundation of Huntsville which has raised over \$32 million in charitable assets. BJ has served with integrity through continuous and selfless service to West Point, the Nation, and the Huntsville community.

**Julian Burns (F-4)** served the Army, the Nation, and his community with distinction. His 35-year Army career included service in Bosnia and Kosovo, brigade command on the Korean DMZ, command of a Joint task force in Israel, and FORSCOM Deputy Commanding General. Following his military retirement, Julian continued to serve the Army and the Nation, both as an executive with BAE and as an active proponent for Armor force modernization, working with Armor Division Commanders, State Adjutants General and FORSCOM HQ. Julian is completing his second four-year term as the County Council Chairman for Kershaw County, SC, where he has brought new business into the county and has led the building of the Wateree River Veterans Park. He has authored two books on former Chairmen of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

**Paul J. Fardink** distinguished himself as an Army aviator, in and out of uniform. His award of the Order of Saint Michael – Gold Level identified him as one of the Army's premier experts in vertical flight. He has made significant contributions to aviation doctrine and technical knowledge by authoring the first Air Assault Handbook and a myriad of articles in Aviation journals. He received the John J. Schneider Historical Achievement Award in recognition of his singular contributions to Army Aviation history and legacy. As further evidence, he received the Bernie Lindenbaum Award a record five times. His current efforts are creating opportunities for Severely Disabled labor in the manufacture of military equipment. Paul Fardink has made significant contributions to his Army and the Nation throughout a lifetime of service with integrity.:

**Michael A. Hawley** - The Recognition Committee has approved the Serve with Integrity Award for a Fallen Classmate, Michael A. Hawley, who paid the ultimate price of a soldier in the service of his country. The Class of 1970 grips hands with those of us in the shadows and extends a heartfelt "Well Done, Be Thou at Peace." Michael was born in Cincinnati Ohio into a military family. His father fought with the 8th Armored Division in WWII, his grandfather was Chief Surgeon of the European Theater of Operations, and he was named after an uncle, BG Michael F. Davis USMA '15. Both of his brothers served in the military. H-3 company mates remember his easy-going manner. There was no better friend than "Hodad" Hawley. A medical profile limited Mike's commissioning options and he chose the Transportation Corps. However, he did not let physical limitations define him, graduating from flight school as the Distinguished Graduate. On 26 May 1976, Mike and another Army Aviator made a routine training flight in California. At night and over the Sierra Nevada Mountains, the T-42 experienced engine failure; they were unable to clear the mountains. Two days later, his wife Leslie received Mike's acceptance to medical school. There is no telling the many more accomplishments and contributions Mike Hodad Hawley would have made as an Army Officer, Aviator, future doctor, and great friend. He lived every day to the fullest and served every day with integrity.

**COL (Doctor) Don Blakeslee (A-2)** retired after 20 years of service and then had an equally successful second career in private medical practice. During the War on Terror, Don returned to active duty to serve as Chief of ENT at West Point's Keller Army Hospital, earning the distinction of being the oldest Army colonel on active duty. Don and his wife Betsey have been staunch supporters of cadets, Class activities as well as leading the restoration and preservation of Revolutionary War history at West Point. Don's life of selfless service has demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to the USMA and the Class of 1970.

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Demonstrating the warrior ethos, **LTC(Ret) Bill Knowlton (D-1)** was twice wounded in Vietnam and returned to his unit after each hospitalization. He taught leadership and psychology at West Point and served as coach or OIC for three cadet teams. His service on the Army Staff and in the Center for Army Leadership earned him the reputation as a leadership expert. He continued to contribute at the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, becoming Co-Developer and then Director of the Executive Assessment and Development Program, which served as the model for other war colleges and the Foreign Service Institute. He has volunteered to assist the Class in numerous roles. Bill's contribution to his nation and the Academy is best recognized by the countless leaders he has developed and the lives he has touched.

**LTC(Ret) Mike Mahan (E-2)** served the US Army for 21 years, in the Infantry and in the Department of Chemistry. He continued to serve the Academy as Sr VP, for Development in the AOG for 16 years. What he is best known for is that he created an enduring legacy of winning with Army Rugby, culminating in Rugby becoming an Army Corps Squad; with Mike selected as the first Varsity Coach. His 2015 Rugby Team won the first MacArthur Cup Award. He was eventually honored with Army Rugby's First Brothers Legacy Award. Mike continues his selfless service to his community and CA veterans as Director of Advancement for the Veterans Transition Center, taking homeless veterans off the street and transitioning them to self-sufficiency. A Soldier for

**COL(Ret) Mark Meranda (G-3)** encouraged, inspired, and motivated all who have had the privilege to know him. Well remembered for his cadet "shenanigans," Mark had an outstanding 27-year Army career which included commanding the 62nd Engineer Battalion at Ft Hood and the 130th Engineer Brigade in Germany. In 1994 he hosted President Clinton at Pointe du Hoc for the 50th D-Day Anniversary celebration and later served as the Acting USAREUR Engineer during the Bosnia incursion. Mark had an equally successful second career with Turner Construction Company, retiring in 2017. Mark has supported West Point and his G-3 company mates in a myriad of roles and credits West Point with instilling the 'people skills' which have sustained his many successes.

**COL(Ret) Jim Mowery (F-4)** has served his country for 47 years starting as an enlisted infantryman in the Dominican Republic. He excelled in athletics and military development as a cadet and earned the Purple Heart, the Bronze Star for Valor, and the CIB in Vietnam. He commanded from the platoon to the brigade level in Desert Storm, Somalia, Bosnia, Albania, and Kosovo. He is an accomplished Army Aviator with over 3000 flight hours. Jim played a key role in shaping Army Aviation while on active duty and in retirement. He personifies the adage, "it is amazing what you can accomplish if you do not care who gets the credit." Jim has served as a mentor, an eagerly sought confidant, and avid supporter of fellow West Point graduates, their families, and the academy.

**Mike Zolidis (G-4)** distinguished himself during his service as a Corps of Engineer Officer and in a civilian career as Director of Engineering, United Technologies Corporation. At UTC he spearheaded several innovations for military and civilian aircraft to include high altitude Unmanned Air Vehicles. He led the design of an Emergency RAM Air Turbine System which is credited with preventing over seventeen aircraft accidents and the deaths of over 2,000 crew and passengers. He has been one of the leaders of our annual class golf outings for over thirty years, significantly contributing to the camaraderie of our class across Regimental boundaries. He now leads the effort, serving golfers and non-golfers.

**James J. "Jimmy" Lovelace** completed a distinguished 39-year Army career, culminating as a lieutenant general, commanding the Army Central & Coalition Forces Land Component. He served on the West Point Faculty in the Department of Physical Education and earned three master's degrees. Key assignments included ADC, 2nd ID, Korea; CG, Joint Task Force 6, Fort Bliss; Director of the Army Staff; and CG Army Alaska. Upon retirement, Jimmy was VP, L3Communications, a top ten government contractor. Jimmy continued to serve soldiers and families as the Co-Chair of the Retired Soldiers Council, an advisory group to the Army Chief of Staff. Additionally, he volunteered with the National Institute for the Severely Handicapped and the Army Recruiting Command. Jimmy never forgot West Point as the AOG lists him as a major donor. Jimmy personifies and embodies the traits of character inherent in the mottos of "Duty, Honor, Country" and "Serve with Integrity" and fosters and exemplifies the Seven Army Values (Loyalty, Duty,

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Respect, Selfless Service, Honor, Integrity, and Personal Courage) through his military, civilian, and community service. On behalf of the Class of 1970, "Well Done!"

**COL Perry Baltimore's (B-1)** 27 years of distinguished service in the Army included numerous Field Artillery assignments throughout the US and overseas with combat tours in Vietnam and Panama. Upon retirement, Perry helped establish the Marshall Legacy Institute (MLI) to help war-torn nations recover from conflict. During his 25 years as Executive Director, he built, inspired, and led a brave & talented team, focused on eliminating the global scourge of landmines. Research in Africa prompted Perry to conduct a global study of mine detection dogs (MDDs). Perry secured a USG grant to increase the quality and quantity of MDDs worldwide. He co-hosted MDD Conferences and served on the UN Advisory Board to establish international standards for MDD. This campaign returned vast amounts of land to safe use and saved countless lives. Perry championed this cause to governments and private donors worldwide. 273 MDDs were donated to the cause without one being injured or killed. Perry also launched the Children Against Mines Program (CHAMPS), which links American students with peers abroad to make a meaningful difference in their communities.

**Reverend Guy Drab (D-2)** is recognized for his lifetime of service to the Nation and his fellow man. After six years in the Field Artillery Guy was called to the ministry. Since that day he has served as a Marine Corps Chaplain, a Navy Pastoral Counselor, a teacher in alternative education, and a federal employee serving the military community in Drug Use Prevention, Counseling, and Suicide Prevention. After 42 years of military and civil service, Guy now works in numerous veteran and first responder support programs. Guy is also well known to classmates for his contribution to the reunion memorial services. Guy Drab has embraced the mottos of West Point and the Class of 1970 in serving our Nation, veterans and his community and has provided an empathetic ear and wise counsel to those dealing with personal crises.

**COL(Ret) Don Frazer (D-2)** distinguished himself in a 29-year military career which included a combat tour in Vietnam and command of two different battalions and two different brigades, all in the Indiana Army National Guard. After leaving active duty in 1978, Don embarked on a 38-year career in project management and engineering in the automotive industry. Don's musical skills at the keyboard are well known in his church and at the memorial services at class reunions but his greatest contribution to the class was his 15 years of service as Scribe for our Class from 1985 to 2000. He did not have the benefit of email, text messaging, Facebook, and other social networks so he relied on tenacity to keep us connected through continuously prompting and poking. Don ensured that the Assembly magazine kept us informed on the good and the sad news about classmates. We always eagerly awaited those articles that ended with the catch phrase "Delta Charlie Fox out."

**Dr/COL John Hanna (D-3)** served in Germany and Fort Bragg before starting a 38-year medical career. His service in Germany was marked by receiving the first MSM presented to a lieutenant in the 1st Infantry Division. John continued to serve in the Army Reserves and deployed to DESERT STORM where he personally treated over 900 outpatients and assisted in general surgery for combat casualties. He documented lessons learned from his experiences in Clinical Journals. John retired as a Colonel in 1994 to become a DA Civilian Physician at Fort Jackson. He established a resident training program with the USC Medical School and increased the in-sourced Gyn surgical load by 400%, enabling TRICARE to recapture over \$1 million of revenue annually. John continued to volunteer for the Harvest Hope Food Line and the American Red Cross and provided medical services to underserved patients at two free medical clinics in Columbia, SC. He also volunteers at the USO supporting Fort Jackson. In his 38-year medical career John has delivered over 6,000 babies and performed 10,000 surgeries.

**COL William Charles Malkemes (G-3)** distinguished himself as a cadet athlete and returned to the Academy as a Math P and the assistant squash and tennis coach. Malk served in combat in Vietnam as a scout pilot with the 1st Cavalry. His second career was providing training and expertise to combat IEDs, ensuring mission accomplishment and saving lives of deployed soldiers. Malk supported the Class of '70 as a mentor and senior representative at the National Conference on Ethics in America and served on the 2020 Class Election Committee. He had the vision to create the Special Awards Committee to recognize deserving



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classmates with the West Point Distinguished Graduate Award, Army Sports Hall of Fame, and the Serve with Integrity Award. Malk volunteers with Habitat for Humanity, Veterans Administration, and Wounded Warriors. For ten years, he chaired the Operations Division of seven committees for the Honda Classic Golf Tournament which raised over \$55 million for 100 charities.

**Reverend/LTC Earl “Toby” Quirk (E-1)** has served his nation and his fellow man as an Army officer, a minister, and author. Toby retired after 23 years of active and reserve duty, culminating as J-3, Task Force Kuwait. He then began a 23-year career in the ministry, serving as a pastor and director of homeless and food shelters. Toby found a special calling in ministering to firefighters to mitigate their traumatic experiences and serves as a volunteer Chaplain for the Soldiers’ Home in Chelsea, Massachusetts. From 2008 to 2015 Toby joined classmates in hosting the National Conference on Ethics in America. In 2013 he assumed leadership of the NCEA team during a critical time of transition. Without his intervention NCEA might have been discontinued instead of continuing to play a significant role in the ethical and moral development of cadets.

**Charlie McGee (A-4)** significantly contributed to the national defense for over 40 years. His nine years of active duty included a tour in Vietnam. In 1979 Charlie transitioned to industry to develop national capabilities in imagery and Global Positioning Systems; eventually developing capabilities for the National Geospatial Agency and the National Reconnaissance Office. Charlie avidly supported the Class, earning the reputation of “never saying no.” In 2015, he honored fallen classmates by organizing a Remembrance Ceremony at the Vietnam Wall. Over 200 classmates and family members attended. He supported USMA admissions by interviewing candidates for over 15 years. He supported 50-Year Affiliation activities including the March Back at West Point, the Affirmation Ceremony in Annapolis for the Exchange Cadets, and the Class of 2020 branch drawing. He also contributed to the class Legacy Book and the Service Heritage Project. Charlie currently serves as Class Scribe, providing a steady flow of information to the class.

After serving as an infantry company commander and ranger instructor, **Patrick Evans Sculley (I-2)** joined Electronic Data System in 1976. His first assignment was in Iran where he endured the turmoil of the Revolution. When two EDS executives were imprisoned without charges, Perot immediately asked Pat to join the rescue team. From inside Tehran to the Iranian border with Turkey, Pat’s ranger training, selfless service and commitment led to the safe return of the executives. These heroic events were recorded in Ken Follett’s “On Wings of Eagles” and an NBC mini-series of the same name. Pat worked for EDS until 1999, rising to President, EDS Japan. When realignment and budgeting at the Academy threatened the existence of the Class of 1970 National Conference on Ethics in America, Pat was again recruited to be on the rescue team. NCEA Chair, Barney Forsythe said, “Pat’s advocacy was critical during the time when the NCEA was in jeopardy of being discontinued.”

**COL (Ret) Greg Vuksich’s (I-4)** 23 years on active duty included service in Vietnam, Assistant Professor at West Point, two tours at the American Embassy, Belgrade, Yugoslavia, and Congressional Fellow (1991-1993). As 1st Infantry Division Forward Chief of Staff, he led the advanced party for VII Corps deployment into theater for DESERT STORM. The Army recognized Greg’s military service by the awards of two Legions of Merit, two Bronze Star Medals (one with V device) and numerous other medals. Upon retiring from the Army, he served on the US Senate Staff for Senator Domenici on the Senate Budget Committee and was concurrently an adjunct fellow at the Center for Strategic & International Studies and the US Atlantic Council. Greg later joined private industry which took him to Europe and South America. Greg is a board member of the West Point of New Mexico and has hosted one of the annual Class Golf Outings. He supports his local community as President of the World Affairs Council of Albuquerque.

**COL (Ret) Terry Young (F-2)** is recognized for his significant contributions to the Army, his local community, to West Point and to the Class of 1970. He served in Germany and Korea and was recognized by the award of two Legions of Merit and other awards. His greatest contribution is demonstrated by the many officers he mentored and inspired as Infantry Branch Chief and on the staffs at West Point and Army War College. Terry has served his community as a volunteer with Habitat for Humanity, SERTOMA Club Hearts and Hands, Cumberland County Honor Guard, Flying Heroes Program, his local church, and other

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charitable activities. He served these organizations at all levels, from President/Board Member to driver. He has served West Point and the Class of 1970 as Class Secretary, NCEA Mentor and representative, local West Point Society, and Parents Clubs. Terry also headed the Class 50-Year Affiliation Program with the Class of 2020.

**John Beasley** distinguished himself through his service as an Infantry officer, an Army JAG, an environmental lawyer, and a community volunteer. Beas has never failed to answer the call for help, be it from a classmate, another soldier, or a member of his community. He has acted as a Big Brother, Special Olympics volunteer, and served on the Alzheimer's Association of Central Virginia Board. In the last role, he ensured that veterans from the VA Hospital in Richmond were honored guests at the golf tournaments. Beas has been a great supporter of his Church and served in multiple roles supporting underprivileged segments of his community. He has actively supported the Academy as a Field Force Admissions Rep, assisted with the Class Golf Tour, and hosted company zooms. He is a key member of the Class Special Operations Committee. John Beasley epitomizes selfless service to his nation and his community. He doesn't seek limelight or recognition but is always there when he is needed.

**David Heineman** distinguished himself through service to the Army, the state of Nebraska, and our nation. After honorably fulfilling his military obligation, Dave entered industry and later public service. As Nebraska State Treasurer, his fellow state treasurers elected him President of the National Association of State Treasurers. Dave then became Nebraska's longest serving governor – one of only three West Point Graduates to serve as a state executive since 1900. As Governor, Dave was a strong advocate for veterans in Nebraska. In recognition of his leadership, Dave's fellow governors elected him the 2011-2012 Chairman of the National Governors Association. Dave was featured in Dan Rice's book, *West Point Leadership: Profiles of Courage* and was the keynote speaker at the Class of 1970 National Conference on Ethics in America. Dave spoke of his own personal values: "Serve with Integrity" and "choosing the harder right instead of the easier wrong." The Class of 1970 has nominated Dave to be a West Point Distinguished Graduate. The leadership skills and values honed as a cadet served Dave well through his outstanding public service career. He has served with integrity and brought great honor on the Class of 1970 and West Point.

**Jim Kee** is well remembered as a cadet for saving many F-4 classmates from academic damnation and he continues to be the "company commander" to keep company mates connected. Jim is an expert in all engineering disciplines. As an exchange officer in Brazil, he supervised a 154 km railroad extension that included three bridges, all of which are still in use. While serving at West Point, Jim wrote the first business case for the Army to purchase the Ladycliff College property. He was recognized throughout his military and civilian career as a nuclear expert, contributing to all areas from modernization of our nuclear arsenal to nuclear storage at Yucca Mountain. Jim has been a practitioner, coach, and teacher of running sports, having coached 60 youth sports teams and five adult track teams at Ft. Benning. He was also the Officer Rep for the USMA track team. Perhaps most importantly, Jim has retained a passion for family and comrades, especially those who are ailing and need support and comfort.

**John J. Mearsheimer** distinguished himself and honored the Academy through his contributions to Political Science theory and practical applications of US foreign policy. As the University of Chicago's R. Wendell Harrison Distinguished Service Professor of Political Science, John mentored many careers political scientists and influenced key decision makers throughout the world through his debates, six books, over 130 articles and numerous Op-ed pieces. His theory of Offensive Realism is well respected throughout the international community. Whether or not you agree with him, John creates thought and instigates change. In 2020, the American Political Science Association awarded John the James Madison Award, given every three years to "an American political scientist who has made a distinguished scholarly contribution ...". As a frequent lecturer at West Point, the Head of the USMA Department of Social Sciences cites John as "having a tremendous impact on USMA's mission accomplishment. John has credited West Point as follows: "I do believe that my approach to my work has been deeply influenced by what I learned at West Point about concepts like duty, honor, country and integrity." The Class of 1970 has nominated John to be a West Point Distinguished Graduate.

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**Rolando (Randy) N. Floria (B-3)** described his life's work as a stone mason who hammers many times with no visible results, but the next blow splits the rock. Randy knew the last blow did not split the rock; it was split by all the other blows. The Philippines sent only one cadet to West Point each year and Randy kept striking the rock until he was selected. He was commissioned a lieutenant in the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and had a very successful career, culminating as the Chief of Engineers and Deputy Chief of Staff, J4. As expected, Randy served with integrity; contractors/vendors knew to never even approach him for unfair advantage. He retired in 2002 and entered private business where he again lived up to the great trust for which he was given. Major General Floria died of cancer in 2013. Hundreds of ordinary soldiers, military officers, government officials and civilians attended his wake at the AFP General Headquarters. He was buried in the Grave for Fallen Heroes with full military honors.

**Mike Johnson (B-1)** graduated 46th in our Class and branched Military Intelligence. His area of focus was the Soviet Union and the Middle East. After leaving the Army, he applied this knowledge in the financial sector. Mike was published widely in *The Boston Globe*, *The Financial Times*, *Military Intelligence*, and other publications. He appeared on TV and radio in the Boston area and was a popular guest panelist/speaker at numerous financial forums. A severe stroke in 1987 ended his civilian career but did not end his love of life. Mike has persevered with dignity and integrity and never an ounce of self-pity. He and his wife Debbie adopted two sons from Russia, a life-changing act of kindness, particularly as both boys have special needs. Mike's fluency in Russian was an essential factor in approval of the adoptions. Mike has been a constant source of encouragement and inspiration to his Classmates, even hosting B-1 mini-reunions. He continually demonstrates the Army Value of Courage and Selfless Service to his company mates.

**Kurt B. Reineke, Jr. (C-4)** was commissioned Air Defense Artillery. An assignment in Germany led to clandestine operations in Iran, allowing him to apply his extraordinary language skills. Throughout his 26 years of active duty, Kurt embraced and excelled in every assignment, from general's aide to field operative. Following his retirement as a full colonel, Kurt continued to serve our nation with the State Department, military contractors, and his own consulting company. He served with many intelligence agencies and walked in harm's way through the world's hotspots, to include Iran, Saudi Arabia, Lebanon, Cyprus, Israel, Jordan, Egypt, Croatia, and Iraq. He was wounded several times but without official recognition. Many of his contributions remain classified but his decorations and commendations are evidence of their significance. Kurt was a devoted husband and father and served the Class as the first Chair of the Inter-Class Communications Committee. He is remembered as a ferocious fighter who would wage war against those who oppressed the weak or innocent.

**Jonathan Deason (F-4)** distinguished himself through exceptional service to the Army, the Nation, and his community. He retired as a colonel from the USAR while filling the position of Reserve Chief of Staff, Army Corps of Engineers. As one of the nation's leading environmental engineers, he significantly contributed to the water quality and accessibility across the nation while in the Department of the Interior. His efforts resulted in his promotion to the Director of Environmental Policy and Compliance. He then joined George Washington University to pass on his skills to the next generation. In 2015, was appointed Director of the Environmental and Energy Management Institute. Jon is a Fellow of the American Society of Civil Engineers, has authored over 150 professional papers on the environment and energy, chaired over two dozen national and international conferences, been appointed to over a dozen Federal and international government committees, and served as the academic advisor to 31 doctoral graduates. He has also served as President, Washington Area Roadsters, a non-profit organization to promote safe and enjoyable skating for inner city youths in Washington, D.C.

**LTC Bill Bennett (G-1)** is honored for 45 years distinguished service to the Army, the Class of 1970, his community, and his family. Bill served over 26 years in Ranger, SF, and Infantry assignments, including command of 3 companies and an SF A Team. He served in combat in Vietnam and in Operation JUST CAUSE, Panama. In his second career, Bill supported USSOCOM and other combatant commanders as a contract historian, providing valuable insights and resources to improve current and future combat ability. Bill served his classmates and the Special Forces Community in Tampa by authoring *Wings of Eagles*, an inspirational religious newsletter. He was a scoutmaster wherever he was assigned and started a Scouting

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Program in his church which produced over 100 Eagle Scouts. He served his family by dedicated care for his wife, Lan, who was having serious medical problems, and dedicating 17 years to enable his politically imprisoned brother-in-law in Vietnam to immigrate with his wife to the US as a political refugee. Bill Bennett passed away in March 2023.

Anyone who knows **Peter (Pete) Byron Lilly (I-4)** knows how much he loved being a soldier, but his career was cut short by an AK-47 round in Vietnam. His personal courage and leadership in combat were recognized by awards of the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, and the RVN Cross of Gallantry. His devastating injuries would have broken many men but not Pete Lilly. After extensive surgeries he joined private industry in the energy sector, achieving the positions of President and CEO of several companies. His success in those companies led to his appointment on numerous Public and Industry Boards. In 2014 Pete was inducted into the West Virginia Coal Hall of Fame. Pete has served the Class and the Academy through the NCEA, service on class committees, and participation in Class 70 events such as the MacArthur Cup presentation. He has hosted Class Golf Tour Outings and is well known for leading any group anywhere in singing God Bless America – with great gusto. He is currently serving his local community as President of the West Point Society of Naples.

**The Very Reverend Philip David Reifenberg (Phil) (G-4)** was well known for his strong faith and strong opinions, which he did not hesitate to share. There is no doubt that he never considered “choosing an easier wrong over a harder right” or ever settled for a “half-truth when the whole could be won.” Upon graduation, he sought to serve in combat and arrived in Vietnam during the drawdown. To achieve this goal, he hopscotched from the 101st to the 11th ACR to finally the 196th Light Infantry until he could walk in harm’s way. Unfortunately, that career was cut short as a result of wounds suffered while on patrol. Rather than dwelling on what could have been he called on his faith and entered a career as a Catholic Priest. His service as a Priest was phenomenal. He was an expert in Canon Law and simultaneously pastored two large Milwaukee parishes, totaling over 5,000 parishioners. For his outstanding ministry, the Archbishop of Milwaukee proclaimed Phil to be The Very Reverend Philip David Reifenberg, a Dean of the Archdiocese, with responsibility for overseeing a large slice of the Archdiocese. The Very Reverend Phil Reifenberg is recognized for lifelong selfless service.

**Terry Treat (D-3)** is well known for his great sense of humor and indomitable spirit. He completed his military obligation with distinction, serving in Germany with the 2/14 ACR and later at the Academy as an instructor in German, with the additional duty as Officer-in-Charge of the Cadet Riding Club. He left active duty but continued to serve soldiers as a financial counselor, a career that brought him great personal and professional rewards. He also served veterans as President of his local Military Officers Association of America chapter, spearheading several programs focused on the homeless. He is an active recruiter for West Point and even escorted one candidate to the Army Museum at Fort Belvoir. Terry served his D-3 company mates by hosting reunions and zoom meetings. He has served the class as a key member of the Special Operations Committee – the SWI coins are ordered, engraved, and shipped by Terry Treat. His indomitable spirit has been tested as he supports his wife of 53 years, Christie, as she battles a devastating disease. There can be no greater evidence of his strength of character or his love for Christie than how they are both dealing with this situation.

**Rolf Knoll (F-4)** is honored for 40 years of exceptional service to his community and the Nation. Rolf’s contributions in his practice of medicine included President of the Hartford, CT Medical Society and Chief Medical Officer at Hartford’s Saint Francis Hospital. Early into his private sector career, Rolf realized how much he missed the Army so in 1983 he “re-upped” in the Reserve component of the Medical Service Corps. The highlight of his military career was serving as the Senior Medical Officer in Bosnia in 1997. Rolf’s dedication to helping others included humanitarian missions to Haiti, Ecuador, Guatemala, and the Malta House of Care, a free clinic in Hartford, CT for those without health insurance.

**Mike Jones (I-4)** did it all and he did it with pride, boundless enthusiasm, honor and integrity. As an Infantry officer Mike held key command and staff positions at every level and was never afraid to stand up for the good of his soldiers. In 1994 Mike became the USMA Director of Admissions — a post he held for 13 years



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— proudly commissioning over 10,000 graduates during his watch. While stationed at West Point, Mike headed the Scouting program and shared his faith with cadets by leading the “A Soldier's Walk with Jesus” retreat. Mike's 38 years of exceptional service reflects his deep love of the Army and West Point.

**Paul Passaro (F-2)** served his Country with distinction for 22 years with multiple tours in the 82nd Airborne, Panama, and Greece. But Paul's service didn't stop when he retired. Paul was the first Executive Director of Veterans Bridge Home which assists veterans in job placement, education benefits, and connection to social services. And Paul will always be known as the leader of the F-2 Zoo. He has organized company reunions every year starting in 2001 and keeps the Zoomates connected and supporting one another.

**Gil Harper (D-3)** flat out loves the Army, soldiers, and West Point. Gil's 29 plus years of service in the Army Transportation Corps encompassed command positions in every grade from lieutenant to brigadier general — including in Desert Storm and Restore Hope (Somalia). Gil retired as the Chief of Transportation and Commandant Army Transportation School, but if you know Gil you know he never retired. He served as the President of the West Point Society of Charleston, chair of the 2020 Class Election Committee, chaired the Class Special Operations Committee, co-founded the *Patriots of the Low Country* to raise money for veteran organizations, and served on the board of the Army Transportation Museum.

**Ed Hirsch (H-2)** — Eddo, as he is affectionately known to all, left the Army in 1975 with combat related disabilities. His remarkable civilian career included starting a dozen companies in a wide variety of fields. But Ed really found his calling in life with his exceptional work on behalf of veterans. Through long hours and extraordinary efforts Ed managed to get the State of Maryland to adopt legislation which created contracting goals for every veteran owned business in the State. Not stopping there, Ed got similar contracting preferences for Service Disabled Veterans (“SDV”). Ed was a co-founder and Chairman of the *SDV Alliance* which helps disabled veterans start a business.

**Terry Johnson (D-3)** has had a truly remarkable career of service to others. Terry started his twenty-five-year Army career as an Artillery officer and then attended Army flight schools just in time to fly “Hueys” in Vietnam. Aviation soon became the focus of Terry's military career which included leading the first VII Corps Apache deep attack into Iraq on the first day of the ground war in Desert Storm. Terry also had two tours of duty in France, first flying at their Advanced Combat Training Center and later teaching at the French War College. Along the way, Terry taught at West Point and also served as Chief of Professional Development. Terry's exceptional and extensive service to the Class includes the Alumni Glee Club, the 50th Reunion Legacy Book, the Class Awards Committee, hosting D-3 Zoom meetings, writing classmate memorials, and sponsoring a Distinguished Graduate nomination. Terry is an active supporter of his community and his church.

**Henry A. Leonard (Chip) (G-2)** epitomized our class motto, from graduating second in our class to a twenty-eight-year career in the Army culminating as a Colonel, to continuing service to our nation as an executive leader in the RAND Arroyo Center. “Chip,” as known by his classmates, served as an Engineer officer commanding at every level from company to brigade including company command as a First Lieutenant in Vietnam. He taught Economics at the Academy and was the Officer Representative for both the Rifle Team and the Cadet Mountaineering Club. His second career with RAND as a senior executive involved supporting Defense Institution Building efforts, and consulting with high-level foreign military and ministry of defense officials. Chip coordinated class efforts for the Affirmation Ceremony for our 50-year Affiliate Class of 2020, and helped ensure that every member of the Class of 2020 received a congratulatory letter from a member of our class. Chip also sings with the West Point Alumni Glee Club, supporting numerous patriotic celebrations.

**Bob Wagner (H-1)** had a distinguished 38-year career serving in numerous Joint, Airborne and Special Operations assignments, including command of the 1st Ranger Battalion, 75th Rangers, during Operation Just Cause in Panama and culminating as the Commanding General of Army Special Operations Command. Since leaving the Army, Bob has continued to serve our Nation in his community and across Ohio, speaking

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at many different events recognizing veterans and their contributions to our country. In 2021 Bob received the very special honor of induction into the *Ranger Hall of Fame*. His long record of military service and his continuing dedication to his community clearly exemplify the Army values and our Class motto, Serve with Integrity.

**Brad Larsen (D-3)** had three outstanding careers — soldier, business leader, and D-3 “elder statesman.” Brad excelled in all three careers starting as a Field Artillery officer in Germany and then branch transferring to Military Intelligence — serving as the 82d Airborne Division Counter Intelligence Officer. Brad’s second career was in the very competitive and ever changing automobile industry. Brad excelled in the business world but his heart was with his D-3 classmates and West Point. His third career as D-3’s “elder statesman” has included hosting four mini reunions and organizing company efforts for our 30th and 50th reunions. Brad has also supported West Point in numerous ways —including leadership roles in the West Point Society of Orange County California, Admissions Field Force duties such as interviewing cadet nominees, and being the primary sponsor for D-3’s candidate for Distinguished Graduate, Dave Heineman.

**John Greenwalt (E-2)** spent nearly twenty-five years on active duty in the Infantry. His diverse assignments included commanding a battalion at Fort Benning where he trained over 7,000 Infantry soldiers and Chief of Staff/Deputy Commander of TF Bravo in Honduras. John was always seeking a challenge and striving to help and inspire others. His second career was just that — thirteen years of teaching advanced math courses to high school students in the Richmond, VA area. One student remembered that “Mr. Greenwalt ... was one of the best — an incredible and engaging teacher, so caring inside his tough exterior.” John’s exceptional service to the Army and to his students is in keeping with all that we stand for as the Class of 1970.

**John Epley (F-2)** had a distinguished twenty-eight-year career in the Active Army, the National Guard, and the Army Reserve. John’s military assignments encompassed a wide range of aviation positions — including Aero Scout and Lift Platoon Leader, and Aviation Exercise Chief. When John retired his family talked him into getting an airplane. That led to an exceptional volunteer career with Angel Flight America which provides flights of hope and healing in private planes, free of charge, to hospitals for medical treatment. Since joining Angel Flights, John has flown a total of 159 missions and is still going strong. John’s remarkable help to so many people is a testament to our motto of Serve with Integrity.

**David Dinsmore (D-2)** served on active duty for twenty-three years in the Corps of Engineers, including two assignments at West Point as an instructor in the Department of Physics where he was selected as the Department’s nominee for the Clements Award (Most Outstanding Teacher at USMA). When Dave retired his love of teaching led him to five years teaching physics at O’Neill High School in Highland Falls, NY and then to Liberty University in Lynchburg, VA. Dave’s exceptional teaching ability and devotion to his students resulted in his selection in 2020 for Liberty’s most prestigious annual award — the President’s Award for Excellence in Teaching — which recognizes the recipient’s “impact on students’ faith, thought, and character.” Dave’s career of training and inspiring so many young people has been truly exceptional.

**Ed (EK) Smith (H-1)** had a distinguished military career, primarily in the Special Operations Community. He was the first West Point graduate to join Delta Force, the elite special operations organization, and had a critical role in the Desert One operation attempting to rescue the U.S. personnel held by the Iranian government. Acting as the 2nd in command and an assault team leader on the ground at the Desert One site although he was only a captain, EK distinguished himself in a chaotic and confused environment under terrible weather conditions until the mission was aborted due to the loss of aircraft necessary for the rescue to proceed. After the failure of the operation, EK played a substantial role in the reorganization and formation of the Joint Combatant Commands frequently operating well above what was expected for his grade. EK’s exceptional service represents the essence of our Class motto, Serve with Integrity.

**Charles (Chach) Morris (F-1)** completed a distinguished 27-year Army career in the field artillery which also gave him the opportunity to serve two tours at West Point culminating in his final active-duty position as the Deputy Head and Senior Permanent Professor in DPE. During Chach's second career with the Florida

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State University (FSU) athletic department (29 years and still going strong) he has performed exceptional service to the military and veterans. Chach's extraordinary accomplishments include coordinating nearly 50 flyover missions at all the FSU football games, highlighted by a very special "missing man flyover" for a Navy aviator who was shot down in 1991 during the Persian Gulf War. Chach continued to honor our military and veterans by initiating parachute jumps displaying the US, MIA, and FSU flags, and color guard ceremonies at all home football games and countless other sporting events. Chach co-chaired the Ride 2 Recovery Gulf States Challenge that honors and raises funds for our nation's injured and healing heroes and veterans. For Chach's dedication to our Armed Forces and the FSU community he was awarded the 2021 FSU Student Veteran Guidon Award. Chach's exceptional service has brought great honor to our Nation and our Military.

**Patrick Thornton (D-2)** joined the Signal Corps upon graduation and went on to serve 27 plus years of active duty — commanding at all levels from platoon to Brigade. Pat's distinguished military career included a tour teaching Electrical Engineering at West Point and serving as Chief of Staff for the US Army Communications — Electronics Command. Following retirement, Pat held senior positions at Rockwell Collins at Fort Monmouth where he supported the military with his technical expertise and integrity. Pat's exceptional contributions were directed to West Point and our Class. He served as Vice President of the West Point Society of New Jersey and as a member of the West Point Candidate Congressional Review Board. Pat has rallied and led his D-2 classmates in so many ways — fundraising for the 50th Reunion Class Gift, the letter writing campaign for the 2020 graduation letters, and a very special D-2 mini-reunion. These company level activities are the glue which keeps us strong and connected. Pat also went on to co-plan and coordinate our 45th reunion and he did the same three times for our unfortunately cancelled 50th reunion. Pat's exceptional support to West Point, his classmates, and our Class earns him our admiration and honors our Class motto of "Serve with Integrity."

**Francis (Skip) Clarkson (F-4)** devoted most of his working life to Pfizer Pharmaceuticals and was greatly honored by being inducted into their Hall of Fame. Even in that role Skip was a "giver" and partnered with a local charity to provide all Pfizer prescription medicines at no charge to any South Carolinian who could not afford them. Several years ago, Skip was gently persuaded by our illustrious Class President to take over the birthday greeting program for his F-4 classmates. This project drove Skip to levels not seen in birthday greetings. He spent hundreds of hours interviewing every classmate and documented not only their life and career but the history of their parents and even grandparents. These life stories were of course shared among all the classmates and were forwarded to the Cullum files. This labor of love brought F-4 together like never before. Skip also spearheaded a campaign to establish a self-sustaining scholarship fund to honor a fallen classmate. Skip Clarkson's exceptional service to his Classmates has earned his selection for the Serve with Integrity Award.

**B. Byron Price Jr.** was an outstanding Army football player and, when his initial Infantry assignments ended; he served as a Graduate Assistant Football Coach for three years. Byron's transition to a civilian career was truly unique and led to a remarkable career in Western American History and Art. His roots in West Texas inspired Byron to enter this field and for the next forty plus years he advanced through an impressive succession of professional positions including directorships of the Buffalo Bill Cody Museum and the National Cowboy Hall of Fame and Western Heritage Center. In 2001 he moved to academia — teaching art history and holding the Charles Marion Russell Memorial Chair at the University of Oklahoma. He has authored or edited 16 books and wrote more than 60 articles, essays, and book chapters. His numerous awards include the 1994 Oklahoma Governor's Arts Award. Byron's exceptional contributions to the field of Western American History and Art and to our society have earned him the Serve with Integrity Award.

**Nick Sebastian (E-1)** had dual careers of freelance photojournalism and Government service which were characterized by his devotion to veterans and his dedication to refugees. Nick is a very gifted photographer and freely gives his time and talent to cover veteran activities throughout the San Francisco Bay Area. He makes these photos available to the veterans and to the public without compensation. He has also photographed many Army sporting events and gives these photos to the athletes and to the Academy. Nick has supported West Point admissions while serving as a Military Academy Liaison Officer. Nick's

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exceptional service to the Nation came during his eight years with Federal Government agencies responsible for asylum and refugee programs. During this time Nick volunteered to go to Vietnam to interview the last of the Vietnamese “boat people” who were seeking relocation to the United States. He also volunteered to go to Russia to interview members of an ethnic minority seeking refugee status. Nick’s selfless service to veterans, West Point, and our Nation exemplify the Army values and our Class motto, Serve with Integrity.

**Peter Billia (C-3)** has lived a life of service as a Field Artillery and Dental Corps officer, a long and fulfilling private dental practice, and exceptional service to the poor and underserved. For the past ten plus years Peter has devoted his life to numerous programs which have made a major impact in the lives of so many people. First he joined a Community Health Center serving the financially disadvantaged and those without insurance in central Massachusetts — including partnering in a project that trained recent Dental School graduates for a life of community service. Next, when he became the Center’s Dental Director and lead dentist, Peter took over the Care for Kids program bringing basic dental services to children in 47 schools. His third mission was when he became the Supervising Dentist for the UMass Memorial Hospital’s Ronald McDonald Care Mobile offering dental services to 20 additional schools and to disadvantaged adults when they would park at local food pantries. Peter’s exceptional service to his community has exemplified our motto of “Serve with Integrity” and thus merits the Serve with Integrity Award.

**Ken Jaccard (B-4)** had a distinguished thirty-year career as an Infantry officer — often taking on difficult and unglamorous assignments with integrity, caring leadership, and moral and physical courage. Among Ken’s military awards was the Soldiers Medal, the highest peacetime award for valor, for saving two Turkish nationals from drowning in the Bosphorus Strait. As an example of Ken’s devotion to West Point and the Army, he mentored several cadets during their time at the Academy but did not stop there. He maintained close contact with them throughout their Army careers and they credit Ken for their success as Army officers. In retirement Ken kept on giving and serving — as a member of the American Legion, a valued Election Poll Worker, and as a community volunteer. This last role of community volunteer really sets Ken apart and displays his generous character of selfless service. In what became a full-time vocation, Ken made it a point to help members of his military and civilian communities with a wide variety of home projects. This “quiet service” over many years was truly exceptional and made a huge impact on the lives of so many. Ken’s life of service and integrity has earned him the Serve with Integrity Award.

**Bruce Robinson (E-1)** successfully completed four years of rock squad remedial swimming just in time for graduation and then had assignments in Germany with the 3rd Armored Division. When he left active duty he transitioned to the Army Reserve and obtained his law degree. During his legal career Bruce served for nearly four decades on the Board of the Virginia Legal Aid Society and is currently its President. His distinguished military career of 37 years included 27 years of service with the 80th Division (Institutional Training) which culminated in his promotion to Major General as CG of the 98th Division. Bruce was in command for five years during which he put his legal practice on hold while his division was partially mobilized in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom conducting training for the emerging Iraqi Defense Forces. Bruce’s exceptional community service included membership in the Kingdom Warriors which provide food, clothing, and the coordination of temporary shelter to those in need in Southside, Virginia. Food rescue and distribution averages over 50,000 pounds annually. Bruce is currently the President of the Kingdom Warriors. Bruce’s life has been one of exceptional service and we are honored and proud to see him receive the Serve with Integrity Award.

**Tom Rabaut (E-4)** served five years on active duty and following an MBA from Harvard Business School he began a long and extremely successful career in the defense sector which culminated as CEO of United Defense, making Bradley, M113, M109, MRAPS and a variety of other Army Systems. He subsequently became a principal in the Carlyle Group, and served as Vice Chair of the Association of the United States Army where membership grew from 50,000 to 225,000. Tom’s no-nonsense and highly ethical approach to sound business practices resulted in his election in



## USMA 1970 Serve With Integrity Awardees

2021 as our Class Giving Officer. This often thankless and very challenging job is critical to our class being able to move forward with those key initiatives which define us as the West Point Class of 1970. Tom's accomplishments as Class Giving Officer included successfully leading the participation of our class in three annual West Point Challenges, the establishment of 10 memorial scholarships with the Army Scholarship Foundation for which Tom secured a match of \$150,000, and the current class initiative to increase the MacArthur Cup endowment for which Tom has just recently secured a \$100,000 match. Tom's exceptional service to our Class has earned him our heartfelt thanks and the Serve with Integrity Award.

**West Point Alumni Glee Club (WPAGC)** You may fondly recall Beast mandatory tryouts for the Cadet Glee Club and/or the various chapel choirs. A few of us were selected and after graduation went on to join the WPAGC. These stalwarts are John Dobiak, the late Bob Driscoll, Don Goff, Terry Johnson, Bill Spracher, Henry (Chip) Leonard, Steve Rank, Mike Ryan, and Carlos (Charlie) Velez. Established in 2007, the WPAGC has served the U.S. military and civilian communities by providing inspirational and patriotic music. WPAGC members have represented the core of the ad hoc Class Chorus which has come together for every reunion to sing at the memorial service. Probably the most impactful activity of the WPAGC is the Honor Sing, providing musical support during the church funeral or graveside service of an Academy Grad. The Club has conducted over 150 Honor Sings, the majority of which have been at Arlington National Cemetery or at Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall. Within the past year the Club has sung at the burial services of three beloved classmates — John Boslego, Jim Lovelace, and Mike Meuleners. The WPAGC has performed for numerous special events all over the country and also in Ireland on a five-city tour in 2018. The Club often honors Vietnam War veterans to include headlining a solemn service in 2024 at the National Cathedral. All members of the WPAGC have served West Point unselfishly by donating thousands of hours to share their musical talents with graduates, veterans, and our fellow Americans. With sincere appreciation we honor the Class of 1970 contingent of this proud organization with the Serve with Integrity Award.

There are other classmates who are deserving of this recognition, and we invite you to nominate them through your Regimental representative.

- 1st Bill Knowlton [knowltonw@verizon.net](mailto:knowltonw@verizon.net)
- 2nd Steve Cook [Steve.Cook@tmihg.com](mailto:Steve.Cook@tmihg.com)
- 3rd Bill Addy [wbaddy@aol.com](mailto:wbaddy@aol.com)
- 4th Bob Opatovsky [reopato@comcast.net](mailto:reopato@comcast.net)

John Beasley, USMA1970 Awards Committee Chair, [jhbeasley@icloud.com](mailto:jhbeasley@icloud.com)

SWI,

Class of 1970 Awards Committee

NB: Each individual will be honored on the Class 1970 website and Sallyport. Additionally, each will receive a Class of 1970 Serve with Integrity Coin.