

Reveille

President's Desk By Jerry Bob Houston



The Cadet Corps Alumni Council continues to function despite the coronavirus issues. We continue to support the Military Science Department but at a distance rather than onsite. We have been involved with the return of the cannon from Tarleton that we loaned them a few years ago. We now have three cannons. LTC Belobrajdic

COL Jerry B. Houston CCAC President

plans to move one of the cannons to the University of North Texas area for their use. We have also been working with the National Medal of Honor Mu-

seum and their desire to establish a special display for Col. Neel Kearby since he was a native of Arlington and member of the North Texas Agricultural College. There is also an article about a new initiative Cadet Command is taking named the General Cavazos Internship Program with the goal of encouraging Hispanic students to pursue commissioning through ROTC. For those who do not remember, General Cavazos attended NTAC and was one of the first inductees into our Hall of Honor.

On a sadder note, LTC Belobrajdic will be leaving the Maverick Battalion in late spring. It has been a real joy to have worked with her for the past two years. She has not slowed down because of the coronavirus and the many limitations placed on instructions, but has found ways to keep her program moving forward at an increased tempo. This can be seen by the enthusiasm of the cadets and the results they produced at summer camp and commissioning.

Our annual Hall of Honor is coming up on March 6. Unfortunately we are not going to be able to have our normal Hall of Honor on campus. We are planning to have a virtual Hall of Honor that will allow everyone to attend. The cadets have put in a lot of time getting things ready, and I encourage everyone to join us virtually. It is amazing what you can do when you have to!

At the Front By LTC Bonnie Belobrajdic



Happy New Year! I hope all of you had a wonderful and safe holiday season! Our Spring 2021 Semester has started for all of our Cadets in the Maverick Battalion. We are still operating under some restrictions to prevent the spread of COVID, but we are still conducting in-person Physical Readiness

LTC Bonnie Belobrajdic Professor of Military Science

Training (PRT) and labs in person. I'm not certain how these restrictions will impact our spring commissioning ceremony, but we are planning for an in-person cere-

mony as well as streaming it live on a virtual platform.

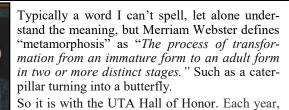
We commissioned three Cadets in December 2020 and project 27 to commission in May 2021. Of note, we had one Cadet rank in the top 10% of the nation and five distinguished military graduates this year! We will be sure to send the information on our commissioning to all of you to attend virtually or in person, if possible.

We continue to receive great support from our university leaders and we greatly appreciate everything that our alumni do for our Cadets. A big shout-out and thank you to Bunky for fixing our Maverick flag stand! I appreciate all of our CCAC members who reached out to our Cadets! Your mentorship makes a difference! The Cadet battalion is manned with approximately 180 Cadets. We have a Cadet review in 3 weeks to review our current strength. I was happy to see new Cadets join our program after winter break. Recruiting remains one of our main efforts.

We were blessed to have two Gold Bar Recruiters this year who commissioned in May 2020; 2LT Jesse Pompa in fall of 2020 and now 2LT Tanner Holman. These Maverick alumni and new second lieutenants work closely with LTC (Ret) Smith and have

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Metamorphosis



beginning in 1980, the Department of Mili-

tary Science and the Cadet Corps Alumni

Bunky Garonzik

Council hosts the Military Hall of Honor, recognizing the outstanding contributions former cadets and supporters have made to our country and/or to their university and their communities. Over the last 40 years, and initially inducting

By Bunky Garonzik

11 worthy former military alumni from our university (under 5 different university names), the inductee number is now 110. While most have earned their induction from their career in the military (including all branches), some have earned their induction simply for their contributions to UTA, their community, and the Military Science Department.

The evolution of both the actual ceremony style and the diversity of the members has been noticeable. Some of the success of the event can be directly attributed to the Professors of Military Science—some good, and some excellent, including the current PMS, LTC Bonnie Lynn Belobrajdic. A few of the PMS are also

(Continued on page 4)

Cecil T. Anderson Christopher Anderson

David J. Anderson Nathan Arauco Theron R. Arrington

Amanda Augustine

William Barnett

Raymond F. Beall

John T. Bell

Jonathan J. Bevill

Jody Bills

Barry N. Birdwell

Billy J. Blankenship

Charles Blumenfeld

Bryan E. Bolt

Caroline Boutelant

Cornelius Brady

John Bradley

Ernest L. Brister

Wyatt A. Britten

David L. Brown J.C. Brown, Jr.

Joel "Aaron" Brown

R.D. Brown

Fred U. Campos

Charles C. Cannon, Jr.

Amador Cano

Mike Carroll Oran Carroll

Miguel E. Castillo

Pat Choate Arthur G. Cleveland David O. Colvard Diane Colvard James P. Coughlin Gerald D. Cox Travis Crook Joseph S. Dancses Mrs. Robert J. Darrah Anthony F. Daskevich II

Archie P. Davis III

Jean A. Deakyne

Ricardo F. Diaz

Mark A. Dickens James L. Doty III

Scott A. Downey

Eddie Drain

Henry A. Dufeau

Al Ellis

Paul S. Faidley

Charles E. Feuerbacher

Michael John Francis

Daniel L. French

David H. Gaines

Antonio C. Garcia

Allan Garonzik

George B. Garrett

Brian M. Gellman

Justin Gerron Sheldon J. Gerron

Ricky D. Gibbs

John R. Glaze

Boyd D. Goldman

Reveille

2021 Hall of Honor

by Mike Parker

Mark Your Calendar for the 2021 Hall of Honor Ceremony - Saturday, March 6, 2021

The Cadet Corps Alumni Council and the Corps of Cadets will host the 41st Annual Military Science Hall of Honor on Saturday, 6 March 2021. This year will be a much different format due to the University restrictions dictated by COVID-19.

To accommodate the University guidance on capacity and social-distancing due to COVID-19, we plan to provide this year's Hall of Honor ceremony as a virtual, online-supported experience. That format will let us meet our objectives for the Cadet Corps and provide an opportunity to introduce the inductees from 2020 and new inductees for 2021. Instructions for joining the ceremony will be provided in February. (No travel, no reservations, no luncheon this year)



Newly remodeled E.H. Hereford **University Center**

Recognizing that the virtual experience dictated by COVID-19 is not an ideal way to mark this event, we also plan to schedule a Hall of Honor Banquet in 2022 with cadets, administration, cadre, families, and friends, who will gather together the Corps (past, present, and future) and provide a venue for remarks from inductees over the past two years. The newly remodeled E. H. Hereford University Center will be the venue in 2022.

Established in 1980, the Hall of Honor now has 110 members and serves as a visual reminder of the significance of ROTC training and military service to a cadet's future and the high standards of performance set by others who attended UT Arlington, especially those who stood in the Corps formation.

We think using this year's online event to "introduce" the inductees and the following year to "gather" to honor and celebrate will provide the cadets each year with the experience of the Hall of Honor ceremony while meeting the safety guidelines required this year.

During this year's ceremony we will publicly honor the 2020 inductees:



Rob Roten 1961 ASC



COL Andy Ward 1972 UTA

The ceremony will also introduce the 2021 Inductees:



LTC Jerry Attaway 1968 UTA



Lt Gen Phillip J. Ford 1965 ASC



Claudia and **Larry Pink** 1978 UTA

Rob Roten and COL Andy Ward were awarded the honor of induction last year, and since the ceremony was cancelled, they will be recognized this year. LTC Jerry Attaway from the ASC Class of 1968 is awarded the honor of induction posthumously, as a Corps Alumnus. Lt Gen Phillip J. Ford, ASC Class of 1965, is awarded the honor for Military Service. Claudia and Larry Pink, both from the UTA Class of 1978, are awarded the honor as Corps Alumni, the first Couple Nomination selected by the CCAC Hall of Honor committee.

The 6 March 2021 ceremony will be provided from the Hall of Honor in College Hall.



In addition to introducing our inductees, this year's ceremony will include remarks by Dr. Lim, Interim President of UTA, and Dr. Cawthon, the Dean of Liberal Arts. There will be updates from LTC Belobraidic, the PMS, and COL Jerry Houston, CCAC President, . The program will include I Am a Maverick performed by the cadets followed by the Silver Cup Ceremony, which will include raising a cup to our fallen com-

Interim President Dr. Teik Lim (left) and Dean Elisabeth Cawthon (right).

rades. You will hear Mark Latham on pipes, TAPS, and "Mansions of the Lord" as the colors are retired.

Mark your calendars now for the 2021 41st Military Science Hall of Honor on Saturday, March 6, 2021. We will provide instructions for your participation in the online ceremony. We will gather in order to support the ROTC mission to develop our nation's leaders as we connect the Corps of Cadets, Past – Present – Future.





New Professor of Military Science

LTC Belobrajdic has been chosen to be the next Battalion Commander for the 3-25 General Support Aviation Battalion (GSAB) in the 25th Combat Aviation Brigade (CAB), part of the 25th Infantry Division, stationed in Hawaii. The battalion has both Blackhawk and Chinook helicopters. This is an extremely positive accomplishment for her career, but it is certainly sad for the Military Science Department, the CCAC, and UTA to see her depart in the March-April timeframe.

Her replacement, LTC Richard (Rick) Ferrell, is originally from California. He was commissioned as an Armor Officer upon graduation from OCS in 2003. His career highlights include Armor Platoon Leader, Combat Advisor, Company Commander, Observer-Controller at the National Training Center, Cavalry Squadron Operations Officer, Brigade S3, and Future Operations Planner with Third Army. He is currently the Aide-de-Camp to the Commander General of Third Army/US Army Central Command.

LTC Ferrell holds a bachelor's degree in education from the University of Arkansas. He earned his master's degree in Organizational Leadership from Central Michigan University. His military education includes the Armor Officer's Basic Course, The Captains Career Course, the Cavalry Leader's Course, the Combat Advisor's Course, and the Command and General Staff College. He later attended the School of Advanced Military Studies where he earned an additional master's degree in Military Operations.

Rick has been married to the former Laura Petersen since 2006. Rick and Laura are the proud parents of Luke Ferrell, born in 2011.

New Officer Corps Diversity Programs

U.S. Army Cadet Command is beginning a diversity drive. This summer, the Army initiated a focused effort to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion across ranks through **Project Inclusion**. The first part of the program was started in 2017 with the General Patton Internship Program. The program is designed to place the best-qualified armor and infantry first lieutenants as cadre with historically Black colleges' and universities' ROTC programs. The goal of the General Patton Internship Program is to increase minority accensions into infantry and armor branches upon commissioning. Patton interns increase visibility of young officers on college campuses who are relatable to the college student population, and their presence and influence may enhance the ROTC program's appeal to the minorities in the student population.

A second diversity initiative, the General Cavazos Internship Program, named after **General Richard Cavazos**, the Army's first Hispanic-American to achieve the four-star rank, is being established by Cadet Command. This is the same General Cavazos who attended **North Texas Agricultural College** and was one of the original inductees of UTA's Hall of Honor. The program is similar to the Patton Internship in how it works, but it is designed to place best-qualified Spanish-speaking lieutenants as cadre at colleges' and universities' ROTC programs in the Southwestern U.S. and Florida.

This second new program is just starting to be implemented. We are extremely fortunate that one of the first Cavazos Interns, **1LT Maria Salih**, has joined the ROTC cadre at the University of North Texas.

The cadet battalion has started a monthly newsletter for cadets and members of the community alike. It will be a great way for our alumni to stay up to date on battalion operations from a cadet's perspective. If you are interested in subscribing to the battalion monthly newsletter, please email **Tanner Holman** at tanner.holman@uta.edu. **MAVERICKS LEAD THE WAY!**

At the Front (Continued from page 1)

re-energized our outreach with Fort Hood and to other enlisted personnel to increase our Green to Gold Cadet population as well as take advantage of every virtual and in-person event possible.

We are preparing for our Spring Field Training Exercise (FTX) at Seagoville Army Reserve Center with TCU/Baylor this year. We started tactics in our labs with a focus to prepare the 47 Cadets who are scheduled to attend Cadet Summer Training (CST) at Fort Knox. Our spring labs continue to focus on squad battle drills, platoon movement, patrol base operations, platoon ambush, platoon reconnaissance and raids, platoon defense, and platoon attack to prepare our Cadets at CST.

We have a great team of Cadre and an incredible Cadet battalion. I have been humbled to be a part of this organization. It has been an honor to be your Professor of Military Science (PMS). At the end of March 2021, I'll be PCSing to Wheeler Army Airfield on the island of Oahu in Hawaii to assume command of the 3-25 General Support Aviation Battalion (GSAB). I will maintain connectivity with Cadet Command and the battalion until the spring semester ends and the new PMS, LTC Richard Ferrell, arrives in July 2021. I look forward to seeing all of you virtually for Hall of Honor, where I will attend from Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. If any of you find yourself on Oahu, please don't hesitate to reach out. I'll forever be a servant leader to any of the Mavericks, Cadets, Cadre, and alumni as I depart this organization with such incredible memories. I'm grateful for the relationships made with so many great leaders and wonderful people. Thank you for having me as your PMS! God Bless all of you, your families, and our United States of America!

LTC Bonnie Belobrajdic

CCAC Life Members

Everette E. Grav Michael Greer William S. Gribble Robert G. Griffith Earl E. Hansen Donald S. Harris Ronald L. Harris Herman Harrison James J. Henderson William H. Herndon Gary C. Hitt Hayden R. Hoffman Matthew Hoffman Tanner Holman Jerry B. Houston Daniel P. Hughes Robert W. Irish William L. Jacobs Ashley Kaestner Steve Kennedy Jimmie A. Kepler John B. Kidd Gaylon L. King Brittney Lamb Mark B. Latham Rex H. Latham Willard Latham Jorge Lemus Joe Lopez, Sr. Joe Lopez, Jr. Roger C. Lowe Mikio E. Ludwig Mark D. Martin Axel Martinez R. Daniel Matkin E. Ronelle McAbee Gary H. McBride Michael Scott McCallum Gary McFadden James M. McGinn Darrin P. Milner Jillian L. Morales Jason Morehouse Allen O. Morris **Courtney Morris** Michael W. Morrow Ronald Munden Keegan Murphy William W. Neal David A. Neveau Phillip Nikols Ronal Nolan Jeffrey M. Novotny Dennis O'Connor Michael W. Parker Laura Pavlik Alma Pressley Pellegrini Hannah Peoples Sergio Perales Bill R. Phillips Larry and Claudia Pink Billy Bob Pinkerton Steven Porter Clarence W. Potter

CCAC Life Members R. Zack Prince Carlos Quijas Christopher Rainsberger Jimmie A. Redden Thomas V. Remediz Ronald M. Rendleman Orlando L. Reyes Lora A. Rimmer William Riggs Barry Robinson Anthony Robledo IV Amy Roe Linda Kaye Rogers Eric A. Rosson Robert R. Roten Foley Rovello John D. Rudd Michael A Saltarelli Jeffery K. Saunier Thomas A. Schneider Andrew Scoggin Joseph Scott Eric J. Sheppard Antionette Simpson Lester Simpson Dakota Slay Dale W. Smith Kenneth E. Smith Kevin R. Smith John W. Sone William C. Sonricker Tino L. Sosa John J. Soules Mark C. Stevens Donald J. Stevenson Shannon Swenson Joe B. Swift Robert Tarbet, Jr. Jerry and Betty Thomas Edward H. Thompson Stanley I. Thompson Randy J. Threet Susan M. Tillotson James and Annette Tomlin Scott A. Townsend Greg Trnka Elmus S. Ussery Barbara Vogl Edward T. Walsh Andrew C. Ward Lloyd M. Warren Dois Webb Gary L. Weber Gene H. Weidemeyer Robert Weigler Elmer G. White Jerry E. Whitehead Michael S. Williams

> Lee B. Wilson Floyd Wine, Jr.

Martin B. Woodruff

Felix Woods Lloyd W. Woolverton

John K. Yim



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Metamorphosis (Continued from page 1) included in the HOH-great officers like LTG Weathered, Col. Joel Ward, LTC Charles McDowell, LTC Max Manifold, LTC Ray Andrae, LTC James Doty, and LTC Lora Rimmer (named the best PMS in the country). The format of the event has also evolved over its 40 years of existence, but it is always a joint effort of the CCAC, the PMS, and the cadets. In the early days, there was a Saturday activity, usually centered around UTA Homecoming, then a Saturday night dinner, and then the actual induction ceremony, sometimes the next day. Later, a Saturday luncheon with events before and after became the norm.

A constant at the event, and a highlight for many, has been the Jody alumni getting together and marching. At the final UTA football game, there were about 70 old Jodies who marched on the field at halftime. The largest Hall of Honor gathering totaled almost 100 Jodies at one **REVEILLE**

of the daytime luncheons.

There is a video at the Military Science Department & the UTA Library which relates to the history of the Corps of Cadets and the Military Hall of Honor, and it highlights all of the members. We are proud to have over 20 Flag Officers, a Metal of Honor recipient, a couple of astronauts, and a Gold Metal winner within our ranks.

This year, 2021, due to Covid-19, we will see the greatest change ever with the HOH. The ceremony will be virtual. The downside is obvious, but the upside is that this virtual experience can be "attended" by everyone in all parts of the world. Details on how to be a part of this event will be provided to all Friends and Members of the Cadet Corps Alumni Council. History and details of the UTA Corps of Cadets, and the Hall of Honor, can be found on our website, https://utaccac.org/.

Bunky bunkyg5@verizon.net

Medal of Honor Recipient COL Neel E. Kearby

by Mark Latham, CCAC Historian

Neel E. Kearby was an Arlington man, a North Texas Agricultural College (now, The University of Texas at Arlington) alumnus, a top fighter ace during World War II, and a Medal of Honor recipient. A display copy of his medal given by the Kearby Family has been displayed in The University of Texas at Arlington's Hall of Honor since 1981. Representatives of the National Medal of Honor Museum recently came to UTA to view and examine the medal. Based on this observation, the team agreed that this medal is a display copy and that the medal at the U.S. Air Force Museum is likely the original presented to Col. Kearby. The reverse side of UTA's medal is engraved "For Exhibition Only." Since Colonel Kearby was a pilot in the U.S. Army Air Corps, the medal at UTA is the Army version of the Medal of Honor. The National Medal of Honor team will continue to work with UT Arlington on researching the life of the famous Arlingtonian.

According to the Congressional Medal of Honor Society, Colonel Kearby received his Medal of Honor from General Douglas MacArthur in Brisbane, Australia on 23 January 1945, for action near Wewak, New Guinea on 11 October 1944. You can learn more about Colonel Kearby, a CCAC 1981 Hall of Honor member, online at https:// www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/kearby-neel-earnest, https://cmohs.org,recipients/neel-e-kearby, and https://ccan.wildapricot.org/Hall-of-Honor. We will have more information on Neel E. Kearby and progress on the new Medal of Honor Museum, located in Arlington Texas and scheduled to open in 2024, in our next issue.



Mark Thomas Lamkin UTA Class of 1966

Mark Thomas Lamkin was born on March 23, 1943, and passed away on September 12, 2020. He is survived by his wife of over 50 years, Anita, and their son, Scott. He died peacefully in his sleep after a battle with cancer. Mark was a graduate

of UTA and served as an officer in the Army in the late 60s. While at UTA, he was the Sam Houston Rifles (Jody) Commander, and he had a reputation as one of the best drillers. He also served as the commander of the Confederate Drill Team at Six Flags Over Texas.



James Fox ASC Class of 1965

James "Jim" Fox, 77, passed away Tuesday, February 18, 2020. He attended Arlington High School, graduating in 1960, and later attended Arlington State College (now University of Texas at Arlington), graduating in 1965. Jim was in the Army ROTC while at ASC and was a

lifetime member of the Sam Houston Rifle Company, a drill team known as the Jodies. In 1965, Jim joined the U.S. Army, serving in the 4th Infantry, including one year in Vietnam. Over the next 40 years, Jim worked in the insurance, mortgage, and banking fields, and he also enjoyed being a basketball referee at the high school and college levels. Jim loved to spend time with his family and friends.

Mark your calendars now for the 2021 Military Science Hall of Honor! The HOH will be presented virtually from College Hall and the Hall of Honor, UTA campus, on Saturday, March 6, 2021, at 10:30 a.m. ET. Information on how to join this Zoom Event will be sent to everyone on the Reveille email list before the event.



Hall of Honor Induction 2021

LTC Gerald D. Attaway

Lieutenant Colonel Gerald (Jerry) D. Attaway was born in Fouke, Arkansas, on August 5, 1942. Raised in Texarkana, he was active in the Boy Scouts, the Royal Ambassador church program, and Little League Baseball.

At the age of 15, Jerry enlisted in the Army and was assigned to the 101st Airborne Division at Fort Campbell, KY. At 16, he completed Airborne School and earned his parachute wings. When the Army discovered his true age, he received a minority discharge, but he reenlisted at the age of 17 with his mother's permission. Upon completion of his three-year enlistment, Jerry received an honorable discharge and enrolled in Arlington State College and ROTC. Jerry was a member of the Sam Houston Rifles and was selected to be Cadet Corps Commander. He graduated from The University of Texas at Arlington on May 31, 1968, with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration. He graduated as a Distinguished Military Graduate and earned a Regular Army Infantry Commission.

Attaway was assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, NC. There he served as an Infantry Platoon Leader, but quickly volunteered and was transferred to the United States Military Assistance Command, Vietnam (MAC V). In his first combat tour, he was a Senior Advisor within MAC V and was awarded the Silver Star. The citation reads as follows: "For gallantry in action: First Lieutenant Attaway distinguished himself by gallantry in action on 20 January 1970 while serving as Senior Advisor, Mobile Advisory Team II-42, Advisory Team 37, United States Army Advisory Group, II Corps Tactical Zone, United States Military Assistance Command, Vietnam. When the Regional Forces squad with whom he was working came under attack, Lieutenant Attaway personally led an attack against the enemy, causing them to withdraw up a small hill. Moving out ahead of his squad, he continued to pursue the enemy up the hill while calling for the squad to follow him. While nearing the top of the hill, Lieutenant Attaway received concentrated automatic rifle fire, and grenades were hurled against his position. He then reacted with total disregard for his own safety by returning grenade and automatic weapon fire on the enemy positions. He rallied his men and began to maneuver against the enemy, forcing them to withdraw from the hill leaving behind two dead, documents and equipment. First Lieutenant Attaway's conspicuous gallantry in action was in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Army and reflects great credit upon himself and the military service."

In his second combat tour, he commanded a recon company within 2/5th CAV, 1st Cavalry Division. In addition to the Silver Star, Jerry was awarded the following decorations and medals: Bronze Star (1 OLC), National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Combat Infantryman Badge, Ranger Tab, Vietnam Cross of Gallantry, two Overseas Service Ribbons, and the Vietnam Campaign Medal.

Jerry was discharged from active duty in April 1971, and he enrolled in the South Texas School of Law in Houston, TX. He joined his two brothers—James A. Attaway, Jr., and Charles L. Attaway—in the practice of law in Mesquite, TX. Attaway accepted a commission in the Texas Army National Guard in the Judge Advocate General's Corps. As an Army lawyer, Attaway held many positions; his final assignment was the Staff Judge Advocate of the 49th Armored Division. Jerry retired April 1993, at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

Early on in his civilian law practice, Jerry took on a mission to assist the country of Burma, today called Myanmar, to defeat pirates who had been attacking Burmese vessels. This involved working with a U.S. company to construct, sell, and deliver to the Burmese government a fleet of armed high-speed boats. Later in his law career, Jerry joined the Dallas County District Attorney's Office as a felony prosecutor. He died of a heart attack in a Dallas courtroom while prosecuting a felony criminal offense on November 1, 1993.

Jerry and his wife Maggie were married in 1980. They had two children, daughter, Chaney Padaca, and son, Jason Attaway. Maggie lives in Hawaii, as do Chaney, Myles (Chaney's husband), and their two children—Ava and Ikaika. Jason, his wife Kristal, and their two children, Kayla and Jason, Jr., live in Quitman, TX. Jason is a combat veteran and served with the 82nd Airborne Division and the 25th Infantry Division.

Lt Gen Phillip J. Ford

Lieutenant General Phillip J. Ford attended Arlington State College from 1961 to 1965, where he played football and graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration and Management in 1965. He later earned a Master of Science degree in Counseling and Human Development from Troy State University. He is a graduate of the Air Command and Staff College and the National War College, and he also completed the Program for Senior Executives in National and International Security at Harvard University.

Following graduation from Arlington State College, Lt. Gen. Phillip J. Ford enlisted in the Air Force in 1966 and, through Officer Training School, was commissioned in 1967. He commanded the 524th Bomb Squadron, the 384th Bomb Wing, and the 8th Air Force, and he also served as commandant of the Air Command and Staff College. His flying assignments included line, instructor, and standardization and evaluation positions in bomber and reconnaissance units. General Ford served as a command pilot with more than 4,200 flying hours. He also held key staff positions at Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Military Airlift Command, and Air Mobility Command, culminating in his final active-duty position as Deputy Commander in Chief, U.S. Strategic Command, Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska, where he was responsible for all U.S. Air Force and Navy strategic nuclear forces supporting national security objectives. Lt. Gen. Ford was awarded the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit with Oak Leaf Cluster, an Air Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, an Aerial Achievement Medal, a Defense Superior Service Medal, a Joint Service Commendation medal, and a Distinguished Service Medal. In recognition of his distinguished military service, Lt. Gen. Ford was recognized as a UTA Distinguished Alumni Award Recipient in 1998.

Following his retirement from active duty in July 2000, General Ford joined the Brazos River Authority (BRA) in 2001. He became the seventh General Manager of the BRA since its establishment by the Texas Legislature in 1929. As General Manager, he oversaw more than 275 employees in multiple locations throughout the Brazos River basin, while managing the system's water supply, water treatment projects, and water quality initiatives under the direction of the 21-member board of directors. Under General Ford's leadership, the BRA completed numerous projects, including construction of a water transportation pipeline to meet the water supply needs of the state capital's northern suburbs. He directed the expansion of a regional potable water system in Williamson County. Most importantly, he oversaw the addition of a groundbreaking new System

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Operation Permit, the first for the State of Texas, to allow existing water permits to be used more efficiently while accessing previously untapped return flows into the Brazos River. This process made existing water supply available without the need to build a reservoir. Lt. Gen. Ford retired from the BRA in March of 2018 after 17 years of service.

Lt. Gen. Ford's dedication, distinguished leadership, and performance reflect great credit upon himself, the United States Air Force, and our nation. His service, followed by his distinguished career with the Brazos River Authority, also reflect great credit on the state of Texas and The University of Texas at Arlington. Lt. Gen. Ford and his wife Kristen make their home in McGregor, Texas.

Claudia M. Pink

Captain Claudia (Claudie) Pink grew up in DeKalb, Texas. She graduated from DeKalb High School in 1972. Claudie attended East Texas State University from 1972-1976 before transferring to The University of Texas at Arlington (UTA) where she joined the UTA Corps of Cadets. It was there that she met and married Larry Pink. Claudie graduated from UTA in August of 1978 with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration. On July 18, 1979, she was commissioned in the U.S. Army Reserves as a Second Lieutenant in the Ordinance Corps.

Lieutenant Claudie Pink graduated from the Officer Basic Course at Aberdeen Proving Ground in Maryland and returned to Texas where she was assigned as a Maintenance Platoon Leader of the 223rd Maintenance Company in Fort Worth, Texas. As a result of her performance and demonstrated potential while serving as the 223rd Maintenance Company's Maintenance Platoon Leader, she was promoted to First Lieutenant and then Captain.

Claudie forged a career in the highly competitive Army environment while building a strong family and a distinguished civilian career. Claudie initially held a position with Johnson & Johnson where, as a direct result of her tremendous work ethic and leadership, she was selected to become manager of their Purchasing Department.

Claudie also had a long and distinguished career as a member of the United States Postal Service (U.S.P.S.). She rose through the U.S.P.S. ranks to serve in a number of management and leadership positions to include Time-In-Transit Auditor. She retired from the Postal Service in 2014, with over 29 years of distinguished service.

In addition to her military and civilian careers and her responsibilities at home, Claudie volunteered and worked extensively with the American Heart Association. As a result of her efforts, the American Heart Association instituted management processes that streamlined the donation process for all donors. Claudie also found the time to support the Boy Scouts of America, a program participated in by her active family. She provided food, donations, camping equipment, and support for many Boy Scout families in addition to her own.

Claudie and Larry continue to be active in their church. They have three children. Their daughter Christina Hudson resides in Spring, Texas, with her husband Rodney and their two children, Tyler and Jacob. Their son Larry Martin Pink resides in DeSoto, Texas, with his wife Kelly and their three children, Mahlia, Sage, and Carter. Their daughter Catherine Lovelace lives with her husband Charles in Frisco, Texas. Claudie Pink is a UTA Cadet Corps alumnus, a wife, a mother, a soldier, an officer, a manager, and a leader who serves as an example in helping to build strong organizations, family, community, and nation.

Larry D. Pink

Larry D. Pink grew up in Dallas, Texas, and graduated from South Oak Cliff High School. Larry enrolled in The University of Texas at Arlington in 1974 and studied for three years in the School of Architecture while minoring in Criminal Justice. He became a member of the Corps of Cadets and was an active participant in many Corps activities: I Am A Maverick, Color Guard, Carlisle Cannons, Insurgent Team, and the Sam Houston Rifles where he served as the Executive Officer. While attending the university, he served as a Sergeant in the Texas Army National Guard and averaged over 30 hours a week working at United Parcel Service (UPS). While attending UTA, Larry met and married his wife, Claudie M. Pink.

In 1978, Larry was commissioned a Second Lieutenant of Infantry in the Texas Army National Guard and assigned to the 1st BN 143rd Parachute Infantry Regiment. One of Larry's highlights during this assignment was leading the New Equipment Transition (NET) Team for conversion of the Company to an Armored Cavalry Battery and the battalion to an Artillery Battalion as part of the 3-163rd Armor Cavalry Regiment. The protocols established under his leadership were used for the conversion of the entire battalion. Larry was selected as the battalion's Special Weapons Officer, where he facilitated the transformation and certification of the unit for their mission to reinforce U.S. forces in Germany. He served as Executive Officer of Headquarters and Headquarters Battery (HHB) for over three years. During this time, Larry balanced working 50 hours per week at UPS and over 10 hours each week at the Armory.

As a civilian, Larry worked for UPS for more than 36 years; he was promoted to management in 1980. As a result of deregulation of the trucking industry in the early 1980s, UPS expanded in Texas. During the Texas expansion, Larry served as a Senior Human Resources Representative. His team interviewed over 10,000 applicants and hired over 7,000 employees, 2,500 of which were UTA students. He served as the UPS Coordinator for personnel in support of rebuilding following Hurricane Katrina. Larry was assigned as the UPS liaison to the National Black Mayors' Association. His UPS career culminated in service as the National Accounts and Strategic Sales Accounts Manager for the U.S. and abroad.

Larry and his family are active in their church, and he and his wife are strong supporters of the regional and national Boy Scouts of America program. Larry continues to support local charities through distance cycling, with an emphasis on helping to free the world of multiple sclerosis. Larry serves as a great alumnus, soldier, leader, manager, husband, and father.