



## LTC (Ret) Sheldon John Gerron

**LTC Sheldon John Gerron**, a Vietnam veteran whose distinguished 22-year military and 26-year civilian careers are lifelong examples of dedicated service and leadership. Born in Riverside, CA, the son of a U.S. Air Force SMSgt, he attended school throughout the U.S. and graduated from Mount Clemens HS in Michigan in 1964. Gerron enrolled in Arlington State College (ASC) and ROTC, where he was a member of the Insurgent Team (1965-1968). He was a member and leader of the Delta Sigma Pi Fraternity, which focused on career preparation while instilling the values of service and principled leadership. He graduated from UTA with a Bachelor of Business Administration in Management and Marketing and was commissioned Air Defense Artillery on 29 July 1969.

LT Gerron attended the ADA Officer Basic Course at Fort Bliss, assigned to the newly activated 2-60th ADA (Chaparral/Vulcan Battalion) with follow-on relocation to Germany, where he served as platoon leader of the Towed Vulcan Gun Platoon. Promoted to CPT, Gerron returned to Fort Bliss for training in preparation for deployment to Vietnam, where he was assigned to the 101st ABN DIV (Airmobile) and the 4-77th Aerial Rocket Artillery Battalion as CDR, HQ Support Battery. When the 101st redeployed, he was reassigned to the 196th SEP INF BDE. Upon return from Vietnam and graduation from the ADA Officer Advanced Course, he was assigned to the 82nd ABN DIV and the 7-60th Air Defense Battalion (ABN) in charge of the Airspace Control Element (ACE) and then to the XVIII Corps ACE with responsibility for Corps REDEYE Missile training. He deployed to South Korea for a two-year tour, initially with the 38th ADA BDE at Osan AFB and later as CDR, HQ Battery, 1-44th ADA RGT (Hawk).

His next assignment was to the UT Arlington Military Science Department where, in addition to training cadets in the art and science of military tactics, he worked with department NCOs to train the Insurgent Team and to prepare cadets for the Airborne, Air Assault, and Ranger Courses, all the while earning an MA in Urban Affairs. He worked with the PMS to create the Military Science Hall of Honor, established in 1980, and later served as treasurer for the alumni (86-88). Promoted to MAJ, Gerron was assigned to V Corps in Frankfurt, Germany, as the primary logistics action officer for major theater exercises. He also was the lead logistics officer for the Corps Mobile Tactical Operations Center (TOC). He was reassigned in-country as XO, 2-62nd ADA (Hawk) at Spangdahlem AFB. He was next assigned to HQ, Allied Forces Central Europe (AFCENT) Reserve Corps (FWD) in the Netherlands in defense of NATO Northern Army Group as Chief, Fire Support Element. LTC Gerron was assigned to the 3rd ROTC as PMS for McNeese State University ROTC, headquartered in Lake Charles, LA, where he later branch transferred to Quartermaster. His final assignment was to the Plans and International Logistics DIV in the Office of the DCofS for Logistics (ODCSLOG), U.S. Army Pacific (USARPAC) and served as member of USARPAC Crisis Action Staff and USCINCPAC's Deployable JTF.

Gerron retired as lieutenant colonel after 22 years; his awards include Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal (3), Air Medal, Army Commendation Medal (4), Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal w/Star, Vietnam Service Medal w3/Stars, and Korean Defense Service Medal, among others. Gerron also earned the Airborne and Air Assault Badges.

Following Army retirement, LTC Gerron worked for 8 years as Product Development Manager in the medical field for Anago, Technol, and Kimberly-Clark. He then took a position as Head of Operations, Production and Service for MG Bryan, distributor for diesel-powered and gas-powered industrial engines. Under his leadership, operations expanded to include development and sale of oilfield and specialty construction equipment. He retired after 18 years. Gerron served two terms with the Zoning and Planning Board for Kennedale, Texas, and serving as Treasurer for a 501-3C nonprofit Veterans organization, Rec for Heroes (Vets). John and his wife Donna live in Kennedale, Texas. They have three children and three grandchildren.

LTC (RET) Gerron's distinguished military and civilian careers and his demonstrated sense of service and principled leadership continue to be a lasting example to the Corps – Past, Present, and Future.