



Reveille

Newsletter of the CCAC Issue 62 – December 2025

Echoes, Realities, and Horizons

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By LTC Greg LeClair, Professor of Military Science

Mavericks, what a remarkable Fall 2025 semester for the Maverick Battalion! I hope all the Maverick Alumni are enjoying the beginning of a happy and festive holiday season.

I'm pleased to announce that the Commander in Chief of the Military Order of the World Wars (MOWW) recognized and awarded the Maverick Battalion with the Bronze Patrick Henry Award. Ken Smith and I were available to receive the award directly from the MOWW Commander in Chief at a special dinner ceremony sponsored by the Fort Worth Chapter of the MOWW.

Special thanks to retired USAF Colonel Jim Quick for identifying our program's incredible performances and submitting us



LTC LeClair accepting the Bronze Patrick Henry award from the MOWW National President/CINC David Worley, Retired USAF LTC (center).



Bob Williams MAJ (Ret), USAF (Left) and Paul Faidley (Right) accepting the award



From left to right: Ken Smith, C/CSM DeLaGarza, C/1LT Houle, Bob Williams MAJ, USAF(Ret) and LTC Greg LeClair



for this prestigious award. The award and recognition would not have been possible had it not been for the collective efforts and accomplishments of our Cadets, Cadre and Alumni. Furthermore, the Maverick Battalion and our MOWW award were specifically announced within the Arlington City Mayor's Veterans Day Proclamation. Great work Team! Mavericks Lead the Way!

In August, we said farewell to our ROTC extension unit at The University of North Texas in Denton, Texas. During a formal standup ceremony on 8 September, Army ROTC's newest provisional-host

program colors were uncased. Based on previous strategic vision and prioritization for recruitment through partnership with the Texas Army National Guard, enrollments and projected commissioning forecasts have been impressive. The program will no doubt flourish as a host program. Best wishes to the Mean Green Battalion!

November saw another successful series of events in support of Veterans Day activities throughout the Metroplex.

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Echoes, Realities, and Horizons *(continued)*

The Maverick Battalion supported more than 25 events over a 12-day period. Of note, the Maverick Battalion marched in the 2nd annual Arlington Veterans Day Parade. The Sam Houston Rifles stood out in distinguished uniforms while marching with drilled rifles.

The Carlisle Cannons fired the opening shot for the parade and were quickly limbered behind a Willys Jeep and towed in the lineup. I was on the reviewing stand with retired Lt. Gen. Campbell and other retired general officers and admirals who noted how impressed they were with our formation.

We continue to increase our reputation and significance in the local area as an important partner that is constantly sought after for the presence of our Cadets and their enablers. As such, we have had tremendous presence at the National Medal of Honor Museum this semester. This growing partnership with the museum continues to deliver increased results. I was recently invited to attend a fireside chat and dinner at the museum with retired General Stanley McChrystal. He discussed his latest book “On Leadership,” which details his own personal experiences on decisions of character, which I had the opportunity to discuss with him one-on-one. Our Lora Rimmer Cadet Color Guard performed multiple events at the museum throughout the Fall Semester, demonstrating our immense value to the museum and their clients. In reciprocity, the museum will sponsor and host our Winter Commissioning Ceremony on 13 December. Please join our guest speaker, Arlington Mayor Jim Ross, at the museum as we commission eight new 2LTs into the Army.

In February, we look forward to another very successful Hall of Honor event for the Alumni Corps where two highly accomplished alumni will be inducted into the Hall of Honor. Additionally, we plan to highlight our newly renovated monument and flagpole area outside of College Hall. This upgrade will improve the aesthetics of our footprint on campus and sharpen our image to better memorialize the program’s storied history and our strong Alumni Corps. Special thanks to Ken Smith and Sarah Nahhas for leaning ahead far in advance to make the event such a tremendous success.

Some other upcoming events and projects to keep track of – we will host our 2nd Annual Maverick Cup JROTC athletic competition at Maverick Stadium on 21 March 2026. We continue to host this new tradition to increase the spirit of athleticism and competition in the high school JROTC programs to test the strength of these young cadets and encourage them to continue the journey of character in Senior Army ROTC. Additionally, our Assistant Professor of Military Science, Captain Hunter Callahan, has made tremendous efforts with the university to dedicate land and funds near Maverick Stadium in order to establish a military obstacle course and military rope climbing area. Once complete, these new facilities will help prepare Cadets prior to attending Cadet Summer Training, where they will be evaluated on their ability to negotiate these obstacles and perform rope climbs. Great work, Hunter!

Never forget – military training initially began at our institution when it was the Carlisle Military Academy. Since 1902, hundreds of outstanding young men and women have been prepared for service as officers in the U.S. Army as a result. We are the legacy – past, present, and future. Mavericks Lead the Way!



President’s Desk **By BG (Ret) Ricky Gibbs, President of CCAC**

This past Veterans Day, we paused, as a nation, to recognize and give thanks to the men and women who have served in the armed forces of the United States.

Veterans Day is not just another date on the calendar. It is a reminder that the freedoms we enjoy each day, the right to speak our minds, to gather in peace, to pursue our dreams, have all been secured by the dedication and sacrifice of those who were willing to serve.

We honor all veterans from every era. But I want to speak about a generation of veterans whose service was defined not only by the challenges of war, but also the challenges of returning home. I am speaking, of course, of our Vietnam veterans. More than 2.7 million Americans served in Vietnam. They came from every state, every town, and every back-ground. They were young—many just out of high school—yet they answered when their nation called. They put aside

President's Desk (continued)

“Our Army is the best trained and most prepared in the world, making it ready to face any obstacle it may encounter...”



their own plans, left behind their families and communities, and served with courage and valor in a place most had never known before.

In the jungles, the rivers, the skies, and the seas, they faced an enemy who was determined and a terrain that was unforgiving. They endured long deployments, grueling conditions, and constant danger. And through it all, they carried out their mission with honor, with loyalty to their brothers and sisters in uniform, and with faith in one another.



But unlike veterans of other wars, when they returned home, too many did not receive the gratitude they had earned. Instead of parades and celebrations, they often faced silence, misunderstanding, or worse. Their service was questioned when it should have been honored. Their sacrifice was overlooked when it should have been remembered. And yet—despite that burden—Vietnam veterans never stopped serving.

They returned to their families and communities. They became teachers, coaches, business leaders, and public servants. They built careers, raised families, and contributed to the strength of our nation in countless ways. They also became the advocates and leaders who fought to ensure that no generation of veterans would ever again be forgotten. It was Vietnam veterans who stood up for better health care and benefits. It was Vietnam veterans who pressed for recognition of post-traumatic stress, for treatment of Agent Orange exposure, and for support systems that future veterans would rely upon. In many ways, their struggle paved the way for how we now honor and support today's veterans from Iraq, Afghanistan, and beyond.

Our Vietnam veterans represent courage in the face of adversity, resilience in the face of hardship, and patriotism that endures through every trial. They remind us that duty is not measured by the popularity of the mission, but by the willingness to serve when called. On this Veterans Day, we honored not only their service in uniform, but also their example as citizens, leaders, and role models. They taught us the true meaning of sacrifice, perseverance, and loyalty.

As we reflect on their legacy, let us also remember those who did not make it home. More than 58,000 Americans gave their lives in Vietnam. Their names are etched in granite on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, but their stories live on in the hearts of their brothers and sisters in arms, and in the history of our nation. We honor them today—and every day—with our remembrance. Let us also remember the families of Vietnam veterans. They too bore the burdens of service, the sleepless nights, the empty chairs at family gatherings, the long waits for letters and phone calls. Their sacrifices were quieter, but no less real. To them, we owe our gratitude as well.



In closing, let us be reminded that Veterans Day is not only about looking back, it is also about looking forward. It is about making sure that every veteran, from every generation, receives the care, the support, and the recognition they deserve. The best way we can honor our Vietnam veterans is not only with our words today, but with our actions every day—by listening to their stories, by supporting veteran organizations, by reaching out to those in need, and by teaching future generations that freedom is not free.

President's Desk (continued)



And so, in the words of General Colin Powell, who served as a soldier in the Vietnam era: "The nation owes a great debt to its veterans, whose service to our country has ensured our freedom and our security. Our debt to these heroes can never be repaid, but we can honor them and we must."

Let us forever be reminded this holiday season to honor our Vietnam veterans and honor all who have worn the uniform, and may we remain forever grateful for their service and sacrifice. May God bless our Vietnam veterans. May God bless all who have served. And may God continue to bless the United States of America.

A Year to Remember: The Jodies' Perfect Run at Trinity University, April 1981

The Texas State Drill Team year 1980/1981; the Texas State Drill Competition at Trinity University Apr 1981 in San Antonio, TX. The Jodies won first place in the Inspection phase, first place in Basic phase, first place in Exhibition drill, and first place overall!

Left to Right:
Blakemore, Darryl
Three, Randy
Perez, Darrell
Saltarelli, Mike
Pink, Larry (OMT)
Simpson, Lester (Commander)
Bevill, Jonathan
Martinez, Anthony
Closer, Rick
Windfall, Adam





2026 Military Science Hall of Honor

Ceremony and Luncheon



In its role of supporting today's cadets and bringing together former cadets and friends, the Hall of Honor event has become a very special, not-to-be-missed event on campus.

To be held

Saturday, February 28, 2026

10 A.M. to 1:30 P.M.
in the Bluebonnet Ballroom,
University Center on the UTA campus

2026 Honorees:

Mr. Stephen C. Smith
1959—1963

LTC (Ret) Mark Martin
PMS, 1997—2001

Registration Starts January 1, 2026

Our Man in Vietnam

Bob Schieffer was a reporter for the Fort Worth Star-Telegram who became one of the first correspondents from a major Texas newspaper to be sent overseas to cover the Vietnam War in 1965. Schieffer interviewed and photographed soldiers from Fort Worth and Texas during their deployment. This collection is comprised of personal papers from Bob Schieffer, consisting of correspondence, notes, drafts of articles, ephemera, print photographs, and negatives relating to Schieffer's time as a war correspondent in the Vietnam War for the Fort Worth Star-Telegram newspaper from 1965-1966.

The display is located on UTA Library, 6th Floor, Special Collections. The library invites you to come and visit while you are here for the Hall of Honor at the end of February! Here is the exhibit's website:
<https://libraries.uta.edu/schieffer/>



Bob Schieffer is on a mission
to tell the stories of soldiers from Texas

FREE EXHIBIT COMING SOON
January - March 2026

UTA Libraries
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS AND ARCHIVES

Veterans Day Parade in Review

Arlington Veterans Day Parade was held on 11-11-2025. A Carlisle Cannon volley started the parade. The cannon then joined the cadets in the parade and was pulled by a vintage WWII Jeep. The Sam Houston Rifles recruit team, Lora Rimmer Color Guard, and Maverick Battalion marched. Stan Thompson attended and was at the reviewing stand. LTC LeClair was in the official party that featured Rex Tillerson, former Secretary of State, as Grand Marshal. There were 90 entries in the parade, and UTA was the only military marching unit. Ken Smith also attended and helped the Jody recruit team.

CPT Callahan, CPT Aiken, and cadre mentored the battalion's former cadet and battalion commander from 1996, Cody Roberson, who visited the cadets and was part of the parade staff.



Winter Commissioning



The Winter Commissioning was held on December 13, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. in the Neal Kearby Theater, of the National Medal of Honor Museum. Eight Cadets got their bars.

Summer Commissioning

2 new 2LTs joined the long line: 2d LT Emilie Evans, MI TX NG and 2LT Mireya Sanchez, SC TX NG.

Steve Kennedy, Stan Thompson and Ken Smith attended. Guest speaker was Maj Kurt Spasic, TX NG Recruiting and Retention Commander, Region 1 and former UTA Assistant PMS with duty at UNT for 2022 thru 2024.



Pictured left: The Summer Commissioning ceremony was held in late August. Two new 2LTs join the long line of commissioned officers: 2LT Emilie Evans, MI TX NG and 2LT Mireya Sanchez SC TX NG. LT Sanchez, (L) and LT Evans (R) perform the Cake Cutting Ceremony.

Center: The Guest Speaker was Maj Kurt Spasic, TX NG Recruiting and Retention Commander, Region 1 and former UTA Assistant PMS, with duty at UNT for 2022 thru 2024.

Pictured right: Steve Kennedy, Stan Thompson and Ken Smith attended the ceremony. Alumni pictured with LT Sanchez on left and LT Evans on right.

Veterans Day Breakfast

UTA Veterans Day Breakfast was held at the UTA Library, 6th Floor, Special Collections on 11-7-2025. LTC LeClair, PMS was a guest panelist. The Lora Rimmer Color Guard presented Colors. Steve Kennedy, Stan Thompson and Ken Smith attended. Joe Carpenter, Steve Kennedy's son-in-law, was the panel moderator included a table to honor fallen comrades.



Run to the Wall Event and Fundraiser



This past Veterans Day, BG Ricky Gibbs was the guest speaker at the 37th Annual Vietnam Veterans/Legacy Veterans Motorcycle Club (WNVLV MC) run to the Texas Wall in Fair Park. Also in attendance were Fred Campos, Stan Thompson, and Ken Smith.

As the name suggests, the Vietnam Vets Motorcycle Club was established by veterans from all branches of service who served during the Vietnam War. The club is now global, uniting veterans who served during that era. But as time passes, their numbers are sadly diminishing. About 15 years ago, they created a second group within the organization—Legacy Vets—to include veterans from periods after Vietnam. This has resulted in two clubs under one name: Vietnam Vets/Legacy Vets Motorcycle Club.



After the Vietnam Memorial Wall was built in Washington, D.C., the club organized an annual Run to the Wall that grew so popular it had to be handed over to a larger organization. When Dallas decided to build its own Vietnam Memorial, Vietnam Vets were the first to step up in full support. The memorial, which began construction in 1988, was dedicated by President George H. Bush in 1989. Since its inception, the Vietnam Vets Motorcycle Club has hosted the run, and this year marked its thirty-seventh annual occurrence on November 8, 2025.



Sadly, the city doesn't allocate funds to maintain the memorial, so the Run to the Wall event is a fundraiser to ensure its upkeep. Motorcycle enthusiasts contribute a \$10 entry fee to join the ride from the Ballpark in Arlington to the wall in Dallas, escorted by police.



In past years, speakers have included both active and retired military members. Over the last 37 years, there have been a range of keynote speakers—from the President of the United States to Generals, Colonels, and enlisted personnel representing various conflicts. One memorable speaker was a retired nurse who lost both her husband and son in Vietnam and served there as a nurse herself. The Texas Run to the Wall honors not only Vietnam veterans but all veterans and active-duty personnel from each military branch. The event kicks off in Arlington, where motorcycle riders depart from the ballpark under the escort of the Arlington and Dallas Police Departments, culminating at the memorial in Fair Park.



Join or Die: An Ancestor's Revolutionary War Service

By LTC (Ret) Mark B. Latham

This year, 2025, we observe the 250th Birthday of the United States Army. The U.S. Army observes June 14th as its birthday. But what were the terms of reference for the United States Army and Soldiers then, back in 1775?

Not long ago, I discovered that my ancestor and fifth great grandfather, Thomas King (1754-1847), served in the Revolutionary War. His grave is located in New Bethel Cemetery in Piney Flatts, Tennessee, and it is marked by a Veterans Administration tombstone which reads, "Thomas King, Private, Morrow's Pennsylvania Regiment, Rev. War." His grave is also marked as "Patriot" by the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR). As I reflected on my ancestor's grave, I wondered what his Army service was like.



The U.S. Army originated on 14 June 1775, when the Continental Congress authorized enlistment of riflemen to serve the United Colonies for one year. Before 1776 there was no "United States." Along with Upper and Lower Canada, those areas were collectively referred to as "Great Britain's North American Colonies." Great Britain did not recognize the United States of America as such until 1783, when that nation signed the Treaty of Paris of 1783, ending the American Revolutionary War (1775-1783) and recognizing U.S. independence. The Army of the United States was known as the Continental Army and George Washington was Commander in Chief. The words "United Colonies" were used by the Continental Congress when it appointed George Washington as commander in chief in June of 1775. The United States Army didn't come about until 1789, when President George Washington succeeded in getting the First Congress to recognize the U.S. Army under the terms of our new Constitution. But what was Thomas King's military service called then?

Thomas King's service record identifies him as an enlistee in 1776, about 21 years of age, and Private in a number of militia units during the Revolutionary War: Captain Crouch's and James Morrow's Companies, Colonel Thomas Morrow's Regiment, John Duncan's North Carolina Company, Captain James Colvan's North Carolina Company, Captain Andrew Cowan's Company and Colonel Arthur Campbell's North Carolina Regiment, Captain Thomas Wallace's Company, Colonel Isaac Shelby's North Carolina Regiment. He also served five months in 1779 in Kentucky and aided in building a fort - names of officers not stated. Family records indicate that he was in skirmishes with the Cherokee Indians and burned their town, and that he fought with members of his wife's family, the Sharps, at the battle of Kings Mountain between Patriot and Loyalist militias in South Carolina in 1780. His enlistments varied from months to weeks. Was Thomas King a Continental rifleman or soldier, or a soldier of fortune?

During the time of Thomas King's service, Great Britain and those American Loyalists probably called armed groups in rebellion rebels, brigands, pirates, or something like the US Government in 2025 calls some adversaries, unlawful or foreign combatants. Not real soldiers, and, in 1775, not all "Blue Coats." Were Loyalist forces, such as the British Legion, a unit composed of loyalist recruits from the middle colonies and under the command of Banastre "Bloody Ban" Tarleton, more regular soldiers than the Continental Army and Morrow's Pennsylvania Regiment?

The United States Army and Thomas King appear to have had a complicated and difficult time to serve in the Army. Much like the United Colonies Continental Army, the 41st Army Chief of Staff Gen. Randy George predicts that the United States Army will be "Transforming in Contact." No doubt, the United States Army will remain a strong institution in service to our country. Happy Birthday, U.S. Army. May we have many years. And many thanks to my fifth great grandfather, Thomas King, for his Revolutionary War service.

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A Prayer of Thankfulness

A note from the **Chaplain, Steve Kennedy**:

As we celebrate the holidays, pause for a moment and remember your blessings. I did not write these words but agree with them all.

A Thanksgiving Prayer on a Military Occasion

November 27, 2014 / COL (Ret) Mitchell Lewis, Chaplain, U. S. Army

Almighty God, creator and sustainer of all life,

It is our duty and our privilege to give you thanks for your loving care. We thank you for the many blessings you have given us over this past year.

We thank you ...

For food to eat and clothes to wear,

For shelter from the heat of summer and the cold of winter,

For the fruitfulness of farms and factories and fertile minds,

For safety in our homes and in our homeland.

For health and happiness of every sort, and, perhaps most of all, for friends and family who love us.

As citizens of these United States, we are also grateful for the civil and religious freedom we enjoy. We thank you for the labors of all those who have secured these many blessings for us, especially for those who serve in our nation's armed forces. Watch over our brothers and sisters in arms who today are far from home. Heal those who are suffering from the grief and wounds of war, and provide for all those in need.

We pray for your continued care and protection for our nation. Form in us a more perfect union. Establish your justice throughout the land. Enable us to provide for the welfare of all. Secure for us and our posterity, the blessings of liberty. Defend us from harm. Grant us peace.

The gifts we seek for ourselves, we also seek for others. Pour out your blessing on our community, our nation and our world. Amen.

Join or Die *(continued)*

Sources:

<https://www.armyheritage.org>

<https://www.defensenews.com>

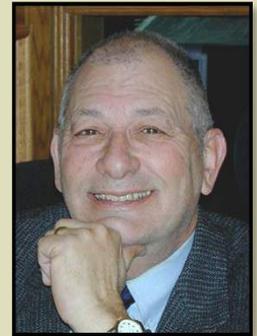
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<https://constitutioncenter.org/blog/on-this-day-congress-officially-creates-the-u-s-army>

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<https://www.nps.gov/people/banastre-tarleton>.

What's Up, Members? By Bunky Garonzik



The Military has a way to separate friends by location, time, distance, and assignments. Some years ago, we added a "Where Are They Now" article to our newsletter—the *Reveille*. And that gave our members an opportunity to catch up with old buddies and classmates. Well, we are bringing that concept back with a little twist. This time we have asked our members to simply drop us a short note on "What's Up." So, here it is—in no particular order:

Rex Latham

Hi fellow CCAC members. Ellen and I moved to Ashby Ponds in Ashburn, Virginia in January 2025. It's a retirement community that we enjoy very much. I'm now legally blind, which means I have a difficult time reading and receiving emails however, otherwise our health is good. Best to all, Rex Latham. rex.h.latham@icloud.com

Linda Kaye Rogers

Linda Kaye Rogers here, Sweetheart '69-'71. Continued a graduate degree in social work at UTA and worked in the DFW area until I moved to Wimberley in 2000. Now I volunteer about forty hours a week as a social worker in one capacity or another, serving on a groundwater district board for twelve years, serve on a charter high school board and take in feral cats! Would love to hear more from cadets at UTA from 1967 to 1973. laluna.acres@gmail.com

Anthony "Tony" Robledo IV

Anthony "Tony" Robledo IV here in Dallas, Texas, with wife Rose. We're almost empty nesters with three grown children - youngest graduates in May from Texas A&M! After five years of Army active duty as a Medical Service Corps officer, I worked at U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Continued my military career in the Army reserve and have worked at EPA for 35 years! Would be super to hear from the UTA ROTC family - my email is TonyRobledo@sbcglobal.net. HOOAH!

R.D. Brown

Hi, R.D. Brown here in Bastrop County, TX. I am retired from the State of Texas and the U.S. Army. My wife Vivian, who I met at UTA, is still a Registered Nurse. We like to travel. r2d2chief@gmail.com

Jeffrey M. Novotny

Jeffrey M. Novotny - Class of '96: After 27 years, I hung up the uniform in May of 2023 upon finishing brigade command. I now live in Lucas, Texas, with my wife Sherrie. We have 2 kids fully indoctrinated at Texas A&M, with #3 finishing high school. I currently work at Field Nation leading the IT Field Service supply side of the marketplace and traveling regularly. Best to all my Maverick brothers and sisters...before and after my class. Jeffrey M. Novotny, COL, MI, U.S. Army – Retired 214-402-7782

Bryan Bolt

Hi, Bryan Bolt here in Alabama with my wife Cindy. We've been here 33 years. Both our kids are married and raising families. After serving 14 years in the Army, I worked as a contractor for Teledyne Brown Engineering and Miltec Systems prior to returning to the Department of Defense where I retired from the Missile Defense Agency. Love to hear from my old friends. Email is bryanbolt@att.net.

(Continued next page)

What's Up, Members? *(continued)*

Mike Saltarelli

I hope this update finds you in good health and spirits.

As you're probably aware, I've been retired now for two and a half years. You'd think I'd be involved more but I've spent most of this time rehabbing from two back fusions. It cured the pain in the fused joints but the rest of them are still the spine of an old fart! We're still in Fairfax, VA, and I've managed to stay married to #2, the general's daughter, for 37 years. Both our daughters live locally, and one blessed us with a beautiful granddaughter earlier this year. She melts my heart when she smiles at me. We watch her twice a week, and I'm required to take my turn with her. No problem!

I've also been volunteering at the VA hospital in DC at the information desk. It awes me and humbles me to see our nation's heroes in such good spirits despite the maladies they suffer. I have driven home with tears more than once. I hope to be volunteering at Fort Belvoir, VA, soon as the drive will be easier.

I want to say thank you to everyone who came to Lester's funeral; although it was a sad gathering it was great to see you all. I will always treasure my time on the SHR as his recruit/young man/old man buddy. Old man order will never be the same for me.

Contact info is: mike_saltarelli@yahoo.com
5507 Andrews Chapel Ct.
Fairfax, VA 22032
Cell: 703-402-1427

Any alumni traveling to DC better give me a call, text or email so we can grab dinner together. Life is short and it's better with an old friend and a cold one, talking about good old times. Take care and God bless!

John Jerry Soules

I am doing well with wife Betty in South Alabama. After the Army, I worked for McWane Inc. as a Division Accounting Manager. Betty and I are members of the local Lions Club in which we build wheelchair ramps. "We Serve" My email address is jj.soul@yahoo.com.

Chuck (Butch) Feuerbacher

Chuck (Butch) Feuerbacher, from the Class of 1961. I live in Austin, TX, and am still able to get around. I'm blessed with having my oldest son, still a bachelor, living near Zilker Park. The second son and his family live in Briggs, TX, about 60 miles from my front door. They raise sheep!! They have two children, both juniors at Southwestern University in Georgetown.

I stay busy by leading a good size Sunday School class that focuses on the study of the Bible. Also am now in my 40+ year as a leader/member of a men's Bible Study Fellowship class. Would love to keep in touch with old cadets, staff and cadre who have helped shape my life for over 86 years.

Reach me at "bullshooter06@aol.com" or 512-923-8254. Hope to be present to participate in the next Hall of Honor. GO MAVS !!

Barry Birdwell

Barry Birdwell, commissioned May 1983 at UTA. Retired February 2016 with the rank of Colonel and as the G6 of the Medical Readiness and Training Command. Service time split almost evenly between Active Duty and Reserve

(Continued next page)

What's Up, Members? *(continued)*

Duty. Originally went Reserve Duty in 1996 and went to work for Southwest Research Institute in San Antonio in the Space Science and Engineering Division. Retired from there in 2021 as a Senior Research Engineer. Married to wife JJ for over 28 years. Children are doing well as adults. Email is bnbirdwell3@gmail.com.

LTC Robert A. Calkins

Greetings! This is LTC Robert A. Calkins, former Maverick Battalion Commander and UTA Class of 2008. I am currently stationed at Fort Huachuca, AZ, with my two daughters, Elaina (12) and Gabriella (10). We just PCS'd here from Fort Campbell, KY, and hopefully taking Battalion Command in the next couple years. Looking forward to hearing what the rest of our Maverick family is up to. My email is robert.a.calkins@gmail.com.

Jerry Thomas

Hi, I'm Jerry Thomas and I graduated in 1963 and currently live in Arlington, Texas. I'm still working as CEO of Decision Analyst, a marketing research and analytics company. Not smart enough to retire; still trying to pay my debts off. My wife Betty is alive and well, and our 3 sons are married with children of their own to support forever. My goal is to keep working as long as possible, and paying taxes as long as possible, to reduce the likelihood of our poor government going bankrupt. My email is jthomas@decisionanalyst.com, and my cell number is 817-368-7048. Cheers. Jerry

Art Cleveland

At 85 years old, I treasure the retired life I am living with my wife. In the past couple of years we have had some wonderful trips to Iceland, Norway, and Great Britain, to mention the best. Seems like a new grandchild or great grand child is arriving often. We love our home in Granbury and are thankful for good health and loving family.

Dr. Art Cleveland artcleveland84@gmail.com; 951-807-5991 (cell)

Mike Williams

Mike Williams ('83) here in Washington State. I just retired from my second job with CACI (Defense Contractor) after almost 16 years and moved to the Pacific Northwest. Both kids are married and between them have 6 children; both live in the same area as us. After the Army, I joined a small company called the Wexford Group International who shortly afterward got bought by a large Defense Contractor CACI. Love to hear from my old friends; my email is mkmjwilliams@gmail.com.

Jim Tomlin

Hey Bunky, Jim Tomlin, still living here in Grand Prairie, TX, with my Jody Sweetheart Annette, wife of 61 years last count. Seriously retired after 20 Army years and 33 years at Lockheed Martin. Lookin' forward to the next HOH event.

Email is tomlinje59@gmail.com. Best to you always!

Jimmie Kepler

My name is Jimmie Kepler. Live in DFW. Widowed since 2018. After the U.S. Army, attended seminary. Spent twenty years as a religious educator before retraining in computer science. Enjoyed a twenty-year career as a software engineer and am now retired. I spend six weeks each year traveling internationally. Would enjoy reconnecting. You can reach me at jimmie.kepler@gmail.com.

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What's Up, Members? *(continued)*

Ron Rendleman

With luck & exceptional Army training I survived a year of combat flying Gunship helicopters with the 119th Aviation Co, Pleiku, Vietnam. Also, with luck have reached 87 years of age roaming around on this planet. Meanwhile I still show my two 1933 Plymouths a few times at car shows every year & at Autorama when not buying investment coins. Finally, I am enjoying life watching President Trump, possibly the best POTUS that we have had in my lifetime, making remarkable progress, while the Democrats with no leadership are in the process of disintegrating.
ronrendleman2020@yahoo.com

Mike Parker

Mike Parker here in lovely Port Aransas; Judy and I are hiding behind the dunes. UTA from 1966-71. 30 years Army with 22 moves. Our 3 kids have blessed us with 3 grandkids and great memories...Texas centric at this point. Be great to hear from you: mparker48@icloud.com



Jay Bradley

Hello! I'm Jay Bradley ('02), with my wife Danielle, our four kids (3rd, 6th, 9th, and 12th) are stationed at Fort Hood, TX. I am assigned to the IIIrd Armored Corps as the Fire Support Coordinator (FSCOORD). Going on 23 years in and a Colonel having fun and will eventually grow up and not be a "Toys R Us kid" (it fits because I collect vintage toys from the 80s and 90s). We all enjoy the Army family life and the continued adventures. I am slated to take Brigade Command this summer at Fort Sill, OK. Feel free to connect at jaybradley79@yahoo.com.

Greg Trnka

Greg Trnka ('88) living in Marshall, VA with my wife Deborah. We moved out of a neighborhood five years ago and now have some land and a wine cellar. Our two kids are all grown up, one married with children. After retiring from the Army in 2009, I starting working for Booz Allen Hamilton in a variety of roles across the Department of Defense. Look me up if ever in the Northern Virginia / DC area; my email is greg_trnka1966@yahoo.com.

Blessed be the Lord my rock, who trains my hands for war, and my fingers for battle. Psalm 144:1

Ken Smith

Greetings! Ken Smith from Haltom City; what's up with me these days? Gardening, too short a time with grand and great-grandkids (most are teenagers now!), working with my Alma Mater High School JROTC, Haltom High, and mentoring the Jody Recruit Team. Catching up on my reading, took a vacation to see daughter and family in San Francisco and a short trip to see Monticello, Yorktown Battlefield and Jamestown Colony. Gearing up for Halloween and the winter holidays. Trying to keep head above water planning for Hall of Honor 2026 as well. Email contact is smithken5@hotmail.com. Give 'Em Hell Jodies!

Bill R. Phillips

Bill R. Phillips here in Tennessee. Retired at age 81 after an adventure-filled career in journalism and then politics/government. Worked in Reagan and Bush Administrations before moving to Nashville in 1993 where I was

(Continued next page)

What's Up, Members? *(continued)*

Associate Vice Chancellor of Vanderbilt University before serving as deputy mayor of Nashville for two mayors, as well as adjunct faculty at two universities. Candy and I had 52 years together before I lost her to cancer eight years ago. Brphillips61@comcast.net

From Bunky:

Of course, we didn't get a response from everyone, and we may run the plan up the flagpole again in the future, so hopefully we will hear from you. It is one way to connect time, distance, and memories. Pretty sure most of our members would like to hear from you. Please let us know if this form of communication is worthwhile!
bunkyg5@verizon.net

***If I didn't see your entry, please resend. And others who want to let our members know what's going on, please let us know—send something in! Thanks to the many who did submit something and hopefully some old buddies will reconnect.

The Distinguished Alumni Dinner



Above and right:
The University
Center Lobby and
the Bluebonnet
Dining Room



More than 400 UTA alumni, faculty, staff, and friends gathered in the Bluebonnet Ballroom on October 24 for UTA's 2025 Distinguished Alumni Awards, including Cadet Corps cadre, cadets, and alumni. This year's honorees--Trey Yelverton, Linda and Dan Dipert, Xavier Egan, and the late Allan Saxe--were celebrated for their professional and civic achievements and their long-term support of UTA. The Distinguished Alumni Awards are the highest honors bestowed by UTA upon its alumni and friends. It was a festive and lively celebration and the Cadet Corps was well represented.



Left: 2025 HOH Inductee
Jeannie Deakayne with her
husband Will



L to R: Jerry and Betty Thomas,
Rick and Sharon Gibbs



Taps

SSG (Ret) Jorge Cuebas Acevedo



SSG Jorge Cuebas Acevedo passed away on October 12, 2025. SSG Cuebas was born in Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, and enlisted in the U.S. Army at the young age of 17.

He proudly served his country for 22 years. During this time, he served in many capacities, but his proudest were the years he served supporting the Military Science department at UT Arlington from 1986-1992, shaping the careers of many future Army officers through the UTA's ROTC curriculum.

SSG Cuebas moved back to his hometown of Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, in 2010 where he remained, enjoying retirement and Caribbean life, until his passing. He is survived by his two daughters Monique Vega and Veronica Lanier and three grandsons Stryker Missel, Mikel Lanier and Remington Lanier.

Luke Beck

Luke attended the University of Texas at Arlington from 1966 through 1970, earning a degree in Psychology. During college, Luke was in the Corps of Cadets at UTA and was a member of the Sam Houston Rifles, "the Jodies," an elite precision drill team. In the summers, Luke worked at Six Flags Over Texas in the live show department.

He was commissioned into the Army in March 1971 where he served in Germany as an Armor officer and Tank Unit Commander. He was honorably discharged in December 1976. Luke was extremely patriotic and possessed a love of the military and veterans.

Luke had a long career as an insurance executive in the property and casualty industry. He was an avid historian and became a collector of military weapons and artifacts. He loved sport shooting with friends. He was also an avid reader and created an extensive home collection of books, mostly works of non-fiction. He enjoyed movies and documentary films. He was a true animal friend who loved his cats over the years.

Luke enjoyed the finer things in life and became quite the "bon vivant", entertaining his friends with amazing dinners. He was quite the master chef. He developed an eclectic group of friends who always looked forward to an invitation to his "Last Party of the Season" party which occurred in January of each year. Luke will truly be missed by everyone.

Luke led his life on his own terms and in his own way. Luke was "one of a kind" and we'll never meet anyone quite like him.

Membership

Currently, our membership consists of 205 Life Members and 15 two-year members.

If you are not a full-time member, please consider becoming one this year!

Head over to this link for membership information:

<https://cadetcorps.org/Join-us>.

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns re: membership, at dianecolvard@gmail.com.

CCAC Life Members

Christopher Ambrosio	Charlotte Darrah	William P. Jones	Michael W. Parker	Kevin R. Smith
Cecil T. Anderson	Anthony F. Daskevich II	Ashley Kaestner	Laura Pavlik	John W. Sone
Christopher Anderson	Archie P. Davis III	Steve Kennedy	Hannah Peoples	William C. Sonricker
David J. Anderson	Jean A. Deakyne	Jimmie A. Kepler	Sergio R. Perales	Bernardino L. Sosa-Roldan
Nathan Arauco	Ricardo F. Diaz	Imran Khan	Bill R. Phillips	John J. Soules
Theron R. Arrington	Mark A. Dickens	John B. Kidd	Claudia M. Pink	Mark C. Stevens
Amanda Augustine	James L. Doty III	Gaylon L. King	Larry D. Pink	Donald J. Stevenson
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Raymond F. Beall	Eddie Drain	Mark B. Latham	Steven Porter	Joe Billy Swift
John T. Bell	Henry A. Dufeuau	Rex H. Latham	Clarence W. Potter	Robert M. Tarbet
Paul E. Berg	Al Ellis	Willard Latham	Alma Pressley-Pellegrini	Betty A. Thomas
Jonathan J. Bevill	Paul S. Faidley	Brenden Leath	R. Zack Prince	Jerry W. Thomas
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Barry N. Birdwell	Michael John Francis	Joe Lopez, Jr.	Christopher Rainsberger	Stanley I. Thompson
Billy J. Blankenship	Daniel L. French	Joe Lopez, Sr.	Jimmie A. Redden	Randy J. Threet
Charles Blumenfeld	David H. Gaines	Roger C. Lowe	Thomas V. Remediz	Susan M. Tillotson
Lance Bobinski	Antonio C. Garcia	Mikio E. Ludwig	Ronald M. Rendleman	Annette Davenport Tomlin
Bryan E. Bolt	Allan Garonzik	Mark D. Martin	Orlando L. Reyes	James E. Tomlin
Caroline Boutelant	George B. Garrett	Axel Martinez	William C. Riggs	Scott A. Townsend
Cornelius Brady	Brian M. Gellman	Robert D. Matkin	Lora A. Rimmer	Gregory R Trnka
Ernest L. Brister	Justin Gerron	Norman L. Matthews	RC Roark	Elmus S. Ussery
Wyatt A. Britten	Sheldon J. Gerron	E. Ronelle McAbee	Barry Robinson	Barbara Vogl
Aaron Brown	Ricky D. Gibbs	Gary H. McBride	Anthony Robledo IV	Anthony Vuong
David L. Brown	John R. Glaze	Michael Scott McCallum	Mrs. William P. Roe	Edward T. Walsh
J.C. Brown, Jr.	Boyd D. Goldman	Gary McFadden	Linda Kaye Rogers	Andrew C. Ward
R.D. Brown	William S. Gribble	James M. McGinn	Eric A. Rosson	Lloyd M. Warren
Austin Byboth	Robert G. Griffith	Darrin P. Milner	Robert R. Roten	Burgess M. Weaver
Robert A. Calkins	Earl E. Hansen	Jillian L. Morales	Foley Rovello	Dois D. Webb
Fred U. Campos	Donald S. Harris	Jason H. Morehouse	Michael A. Saltarelli	Gary L. Weber
Charles C. Cannon, Jr.	Ronald L. Harris	Allen O. Morris	Jeffrey K. Saunier	Gene H. Weidemeyer
Amador Cano	Herman Harrison	Courtney A. Morris	Thomas A. Schneider	Robert L. Weigler
Michael Carrol	James J. Henderson	Michael W. Morrow	Andrew Scoggin	Elmer G. White
Oran B. Carroll II	William H. Herndon	Ronald L. Munden	Joseph Scott	Jerry E. Whitehead
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	William L. Jacobs	Dennis O'Connor		

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Charles An	Mary Dye	Van A. Nine
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Donald Chamberlain	Joe R. McClintock	James P. Ward



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The Cadet Corps Alumni Council (CCAC) has a twofold mission:

First, to support The University of Texas at Arlington's (UTA) Military Science program and enable it to continue developing outstanding future leaders of the U.S. Army.

Second, to facilitate comradeship and communication among Military Science alumni across the decades and recognize their service and achievements.