



Thomas Richard Gordon Co B-2

It is said of Tom he knew everybody; while this is not completely accurate, the error is negligible.

He has managed to pass by the Tactical and Academic Departments unscathed. "Through the grim murk of it all," he has kept his ready smile and good humor – assets which are sure to pay off in the future.

Born – 29 April, 1939 in Missouri.

To USMA – from St. Petersburg, FL. Appointed from Honor School HS.

Died – 2 Sept. 2024 (age 85) at Clearwater, FL. Buried at Bay Pines National Cemetery, St. Petersburg, FL.

Military Awards – 7 Bronze Star Medals (one with V), Purple Heart Medal, 4 Air Medals, Combat Infantryman Badge CIB, 2 Army Commendation Medals, 2 Meritorious Service Medals, 2 Defense Superior Service Medals, Legion of Merit Medal.

Schooling – Master of Science MS Degree, Purdue University, Master of Arts MA Degree and Doctorate PhD Degree in Industrial & Organizational Psychology, University of South Florida, Command & General Staff College CGSC, Army War College AWC.

Family - Wife – Francy Gordon (57 years) – 3 children (Thomas Jr, Steven, Robert - USMA 2000) – 11 grandchildren.

Contact – Francy Gordon, Address 13883 Tern Lane, Clearwater, FL 33762, Phone unknown, Email unknown.

Tom served on active duty in the Army (Artillery) for 27 years, retiring in 1988, with the rank of Colonel. His first assignment was with the 101st Airborne Division at Fort Campbell, KY. He then served in Vietnam (1st tour - MACV), Fort Sill, OK (Student, Artillery & Missile School A&MS), Fort Sill, OK (Battery Commander, 4/28th Artillery), West Lafayette, IN (Student, Purdue University), West Point, NY (Tactical Department, Military Psychology & Leadership MP&L), Vietnam (2nd Tour – 1st Cavalry Division), Fort Leavenworth, KS (Student, Command & General Staff College CGSC), Pentagon, VA (Army Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Planning ODCSP DA), Germany (Battalion Commander, 6/9th Field Artillery), Fort Knox, KY (Deputy G1 DG1, Headquarters, V Corps), Carlisle, PA (Student, Army War College AWC), Pearl Harbor, HI (Headquarters, Commander in Chief, Pacific CINPAC), Tampa, FL (Rapid Deployment Joint Task Force RDJTF, Deputy Chief of Staff, Central Command CENTCOM), Fort Leavenworth, KS (Staff & Faculty, Command & General Staff College CGSC).

After leaving active duty in the Army, Tom had a successful career in education. He worked as an Agent for the USPA&IRA (now First Command Financial Services). He worked and obtained a Master of Arts MA Degree and then Doctorate PhD Degree at University of South Florida in Tampa, FL. where he continued to work as the Director of Advising & Student Services and Adjunct Professor of Psychology. Tom passed away on 2 September 2024.

Footnote from Tom - "It's hard to believe that it's been nearly (64) years since we marched (wandered?) through the sally port, met the Man in the Red Sash, dropped our bags (and picked them up again several time) and began the journey to now. Where did the time go?"