



Richard Alan Buckner Co I-2

From within the shadow of Yankee Stadium came the Bronx's contribution to the Army Athletic Association. Benjy excelled on the fields of friendly strife in both football and lacrosse, and somehow found time to apply a minimum of effort in academics. He will always be remembered for his willingness to help, his acquired Southern accent, and his ready grin.

Born – 2 November 1939 in New York City (Bronx).

To USMA – from New York City. Appointed as a Qualified Alternate. Nicknames – “Buck” - “Benjy”.

Died – 22 July 2021 (age 82) at Gainesville, VA. Buried at West Point.

Military Awards – 2 Bronze Star Medals, Army Commendation Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit Medal.

Schooling – Masters in Physical Education, MPE Degree, University of Wisconsin, Command & General Staff College, CSGS.

Family - Wife – Trish Buckner – 3 children (Elizabeth, Richard Jr., Ann Marie) – 9 grandchildren, 2 step-grandchildren, 6 great grandchildren.

Contact – Trish Buckner, Address 13606 Heritage Valley Way, Gainesville, VA 20155, Phone unknown, Email unknown.

Dick served on active duty in the Army (Artillery) for 30 years, retiring in 1991, with the rank of Colonel. His first assignment was with the 4/65th Artillery. He then served in Okinawa and Vietnam (1st tour – 3/319th Artillery, 173rd Airborne, RVN), Madison, WI (Student, University of Wisconsin, UWI), West Point, NY (Instructor, Office of Physical Education, OPE, USMA), Vietnam (2nd tour – Executive Officer, 6/27th Field Artillery & US Army Vietnam, USARV), Fort Leavenworth, KS (Command & General Staff College, CGSC), Monterey, CA (Defense Language Institute, DLI), Germany (U.S. Army Russian Institute, USARI). Pentagon, VA (Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff Operations, Department of the Army, ODCSO DA), Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling, Washington, D.C. (Defense Intelligence Agency, DIA), Budapest, Hungary (Army Attache), Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling, Washington, D.C. (Defense Intelligence Agency, DIA), Arlington, VA (Foreign Service Institute, FSI), Prague, Czechoslovakia (Army Attache), Fort Knox, KY (Officer Special Review Board, Personnel Command, OSRB PERSCOM).

After leaving active duty in the Army, Dick had a successful career in business with the Aerospace Corporation supporting the National Reconnaissance Office, NRO in Chantilly, VA. Dick passed away on 22 July 2021.

Footnote from Dick – “Throughout our stint in the Army, Trish (my high school sweetheart) was outstanding at moving our home to 25 different locations in the United States and overseas.....Now retired, playing doubles handball twice a week, leading the good life with my soul-mate Trish, and doing some volunteer work.....we are truly blessed.”