

## **Colonel Richard A. Crecelius (Class 51-43)**

Colonel Crecelius joined the Indiana National Guard on April 16, 1940 and entered the Army on active duty in World War II as a private on January 17, 1941. He graduated from the Field Artillery Officer Candidate School at Fort Sill, Oklahoma on February 11, 1943.

During World War II he served as a heavy artillery officer in Europe taking part in the Normandy, Northern France, Ardennes Alsace, Rhineland and Central Europe Campaigns. He was separated from service after the war and entered Wabash College in Indiana and later transferred to the University of Indiana, receiving his bachelor of science degree in 1950. He rejoined the National Guard in 1950 and went into the Regular Army in 1958.

Colonel Crecelius attended the Command and General Staff College in 1959 and commanded 1st Howitzer Battalion, 7th Artillery, 1st Infantry Division during 1959-60. He later served in Japan, Korea and Italy and was promoted to Colonel on October 4, 1963. He became the Senior Advisor to the 85th Army Reserve Division of Chicago in September 1968 and assumed command of Camp McCoy, Wisconsin on June 8, 1970.

His awards and decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal, Silver Star and The Legion of Merit.