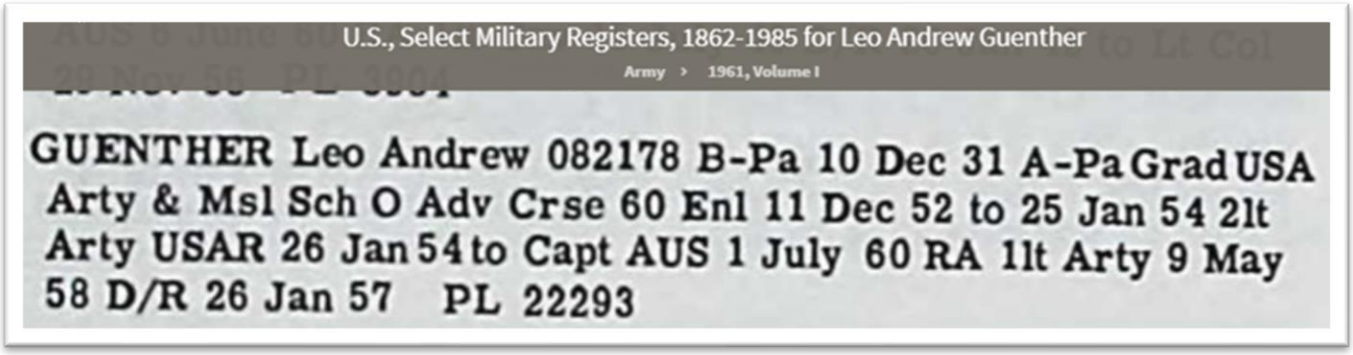
The Artillery Officer Candidate School Hall of Fame

Colonel Leo A. Guenther, Artillery OCS Class 47-54 meets the criteria for induction into the Artillery Officer Candidate School Hall of Fame. He graduated from OCS on January 26, 1954 and was promoted to Colonel (0-6) on July 7, 1974.

In keeping with the original intent of the Fort Sill Artillery OCS Hall of Fame, the goal is to honor every graduate who attained the rank of Colonel (0-6) or above. On January 5, 1968, OCS Commandant Colonel Marlin Camp wrote "***The west room of the Lanyard Lounge (Building 3031) will be the Hall of Fame and now contains pictures of graduates who have attained the rank of full colonel and above, and graduates who have been awarded the Distinguished Service Cross or Medal of Honor. I now consider this the appropriate time to announce to the public, through Army news media, the establishment of this Hall of Fame to commence a concentrated effort for additional nominees."***

During December 1968 Army Times included the following: "***Fort Sill officials say that many of the school's distinguished alumni may be missing from the Hall's roster because class lists from the school's early days are incomplete and because the Hall was established too recently for an extensive search to have been completed yet. The school is seeking assistance from OCS alumni, in tracking down all eligible candidates for the Hall."***

Inclusion in the Hall of Fame reflects favorably on the individual graduate and the Artillery Officer Candidate School as an institution. Citizen soldiers who answered the call during World War II, Korea, and Vietnam are the legacy of Artillery OCS. An OCS graduate attaining the rank of full colonel is a significant accomplishment, and unfortunately many who rose to that level in the 1960s and 1970s were never recognized.

A previous unfortunate misconception was that the Hall of Fame was only for Field Artillery or Air Defense Artillery branch officers. That was never the case. All graduates from OCS at Fort Sill are eligible for the Hall of Fame, regardless of branch. Regular Army, Reserve, and National Guard officers are all qualified and self-nominations have always been accepted for the Hall of Fame.