

Colonel Henry Clay Kirk (Class 113-44)

Colonel Kirk was attending Auburn University when he was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1943. After Basic Training at Fort Bragg, North Carolina he completed Field Artillery Officer Candidate School at Fort Sill, Oklahoma on June 24, 1944. His first assignment after graduation was to the 65th Infantry Division at Camp Shelby, Mississippi. He was later transferred to the 102nd Infantry Division in the European Theater. During World War II, he served as a forward observer with an infantry rifle company and as a firing battery executive officer.

During the 1950s, then a captain, he was assigned to the 2nd Infantry Division along the 38th Parallel in Korea where he directed artillery fires and air support for the United Nations forces during the latter stages of the conflict.

Colonel Kirk was assigned to the 1st Cavalry Division in Vietnam in August 1967 and eventually became the Division Artillery Commander. While in Vietnam he was selected for promotion to colonel and transferred to Army Headquarters.

Between wars he completed requirements for his bachelor's degree from Auburn University, attended the Command and General Staff College and commanded an artillery battalion in the 35th Field Artillery. He retired in 1974.

He died January 26, 2005.