Colonel Richard L. Powell (Class 71-43)

Colonel Powell was studying at Santa Clara University and left school to enlist in the Army on June 24, 1942. He was commissioned a Second Lieutenant upon graduation from the Field Artillery Officer Candidate School at Fort Sill, Oklahoma on July 1, 1943. He was assigned to the Field Artillery Officers' Replacement Pool at the Field Artillery Replacement Training Center, Fort Bragg, North Carolina and then served overseas in World War II.

He was promoted to Major on August 16, 1954. From 1956 to 1959 he was stationed at Fort Huachuca, Arizona with the U.S. Army Electronic Proving Ground. He graduated from the Command and General Staff College in 1960. He was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel on November 27, 1961 and to Colonel on May 26, 1967.

Colonel Powell graduated from the Army War College in 1968 and commanded the 54th Field Artillery Group in Vietnam during 1969. He served three years as the Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics with U.S. Army Headquarters Europe and then served as the Commandant of the U.S. Army Combat Surveillance School at Fort Huachuca. He retired in 1973.

His awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit with two Oak Leaf Clusters, the Bronze Star with three Oak Leaf Clusters, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Purple Heart and Air Medal with ten Oak Leaf Clusters.