

The Artillery Officer Candidate School Hall of Fame

Colonel William T. Schmidt, Artillery OCS Class 17-42 meets the criteria for induction into the Artillery Officer Candidate School Hall of Fame. He was promoted to Colonel (0-6) on May 17, 1966.

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.

An unfortunate misconception at one time 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.

SCHMIDT William Theodore 084465 B-III 21 Feb 20 A-III AM
 CR Grad Str Int Sch 59 Enl 23 Oct 41 to 15 June 42 1 Mar 48 to
 18 Apr 48 2lt AUS 16 June 42 to Maj AUS 16 Aug 51 RA Capt
 Arty 17 Sep 58 D/R 1 Apr 53 PL 13109

SCHMIDT WILLIAM A	0-0102200	AT	COL	17 05 66	23 10 41	MAJ	01 07 60	07	10 03 60	5	6	02 11 37
SCHMIDT WILLIAM T	0-0084465	AT	COL	17 05 66	23 10 41	MAJ	01 07 60	07	01 07 46	5	N	21 02 20
SCHMIDT HARRY W	W-0904304	IS	CW4	15 02 62	23 04 43	CW4	01 11 66	07	0	7	7	01 06 18