

Artillery OCS Hall of Fame Nomination - Colonel Kermit T. Williams (Class 47-43)

COL Williams was nominated for the Hall of Fame by COL James A. Hemphill, CONARC Office of the Inspector General on February 16, 1971. The Hall of Fame project officer (a 2LT WAC, Custodian of the Hall of Fame) responded on April 20, 1971 and asked for the current mailing address of COL Williams, so she could mail him the biographical sketch form

COL Hemphill provided the information in a letter dated April 20, 1971. There is no indication on file that anything was mailed to COL Williams asking for the biographical information and photo needed to complete the process. During this period, a letter would have been prepared for signature by the President of the Board of Governors of the Officer Candidate Hall of Fame.

This is just one of several dozen instances where a nomination process was left undone and forgotten, until being resurrected over the last few years by volunteers trying to do the right thing. I have been able to find a picture of COL Williams from his 1935 high school yearbook and the following excerpt from the letter sent by COL Hemphill on February 16, 1971: **"Colonel Williams was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Field Artillery upon completion of OCS at Fort Sill, Oklahoma on 14 January 1943. Promotion to the rank of Colonel USAR was effective 10 October 1969. His distinguished active-duty military Career will end upon his retirement in the grade of Colonel on 28 February 1971."**

I can add the following to his history: He enlisted in the Army on April 6, 1942. His first assignment was to the Field Artillery Training Center at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. He served overseas during World War II from March 19, 1943 to February 26, 1944. He was separated from the Army at Indian Gap Military Reservation on March 4, 1946. I believe he came back on active duty on August 12, 1948. He applied for a World War II bonus compensation from Pennsylvania while stationed in Germany during 1950. He went on to serve about 28 years. He died on August 28, 1984.

Thanks,

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