

## **Artillery OCS Hall of Fame**

Colonel Gary C. Mahan AAA OCS Fort Bliss 1952

Colonel Mahan enlisted in the U.S. Army in May 1951 and was assigned to the 8th Infantry Division at Fort Jackson, South Carolina. He was Honor Graduate of his Anti-Aircraft Artillery OCS Class at Fort Bliss.

In Korea he was assigned to the 7th Infantry Division where he commanded Headquarters Battery and C Battery of the 15th Airborne Division and was Operations Officer of the 80th Airborne Anti-Aircraft Artillery Battalion. In Vietnam he was an assistant G3 at Headquarters, II Field Force at Long Bien.

His career includes service as a paratrooper with the 82nd Airborne at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, command of a double Nike battery in the 54th AAA Missile Battalion in Maryland, command of the 8-inch Howitzer Battery of the 1st Battalion, 9th Artillery, 3rd Infantry Division in Germany, and attendance at Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

Following his service in Vietnam, Colonel Mahan was assigned to the Pentagon in as an assistant to the Secretary of the General Staff where he performed the duties of Congressional Assistant to the Chief of Staff of the Army, General William C. Westmoreland, for three years.

He later commanded the 31st Air Defense Artillery (ADA) Brigade at Homestead Air Force Base. Florida followed by assignment to the Army War College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. He culminated his career as the Commander of the 1st ADA Training Brigade at Fort Bliss, Texas.

Colonel Mahan's decorations include the Legions of Merit with two Oak Leaf Clusters, and the Army Commendation Medal.