



## **COLONEL WILLIAM A. RAHKOLA**

### **CLASS 1-65**

Colonel Rahkola served with the 41st Field Artillery Group and the 30<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery at Fort Sill after graduating from OCS. He later served in a variety of command and staff positions with the Minnesota Army National Guard.

His assignments included S3, 1st Battalion, 175th Field Artillery, Intelligence Officer and Division S4 with the 47th Division Artillery Headquarters. He also served as Battalion Executive Officer and later commanded 1st Battalion, 151st Field Artillery. He later served as the Deputy Fire Support Coordinator for the 34th Division Artillery. He was then assigned to the Minnesota State Army Command Headquarters as Chief, Operations and Training and culminated his career as Headquarters Project Branch Chief.

In 1985 and in 1986 he was the 47th Division Artillery Fire Support Coordinator during Operation Yama Sakura in Japan. Under his command the 1st Battalion, 151st Field Artillery was mobilized and moved to Fort Chaffee to support the 1st Brigade, 47th Infantry Division for the duration of a cycle at the US Army Light Infantry Training Center. He represented the Minnesota and California National Guard as Fire Support Coordinator during the course of three I Corps Artillery CPX's.

Colonel Rahkola also served as Winter Operations Instructor at Camp Ripley, Minnesota and participated in War Fighter at Fort Leavenworth with the 34th Division Artillery.

His decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters, and the Army Achievement Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster.