



**Colonel  
Richard L. Throckmorton  
Class 14-67**

Colonel Throckmorton served his first tour in Vietnam with duty as a Forward Observer, Fire Direction Officer and Battery Executive Officer with the 40th Field Artillery. After completing Rotary Wing Flight School and Attack Helo Transition, he returned to Vietnam for a second tour serving as a Cobra Pilot with the Battery C, 4th Battalion, 77th Artillery (ARA) 101st Airborne Division.

He spent three months at Ryukyu Army Hospital in Okinawa recovering from wounds and then completed the Fixed Wing Officer Qualification Course at Fort Stewart, Georgia. He returned to Fort Sill for duty with the Field Artillery Training Brigade in a series of assignments including Battery Commander, Battalion S-1 and Battalion Executive Officer. He then left active duty to begin a career with the California Army National Guard.

He served in a succession of assignments with the 144th Field Artillery as the Battalion S-1, Battalion FDO, Battery Commander and finally Command of the 3rd Battalion, 144th Field Artillery. He later served as Assistant Professor of Military Science in the ROTC program at Santa Clara University. His career culminated as the 40th Division Artillery Commander. Since 1980 he has operated Aspen Helicopters and has logged 26,000 civilian flight hours and 2,000 combat flight hours.

Colonel Throckmorton's decorations include the Distinguished Flying Cross with Four Oak Leaf Clusters, the Bronze Star with "V", the Purple Heart with Two Oak Leaf Clusters, the Air Medal with "V" and Two Oak Leaf Clusters and the Army Commendation Medal with "V" and Two Oak Leaf Clusters.