

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH FOR THE FIELD ARTILLERY OCS HALL OF FAME

United States Field Artillery Association

Post Office Box 33027

Fort Sill, Oklahoma 73503

Name: Billy Ray Wood

Date: 15 May 1997

Telephone: Comm (703) 607- 7730

Rank: Colonel

DSN 327-7730

DOR: 25 Mar 1997

Address: 6968 Old Brentford Road

DOB: 30 Aug 1944

Alexandria, VA 22310-4305

OCS Class # 65-1

Date Graduated/Commissioned: 15 Jan 1965

Location of OCS: Robinson Barracks, Fort Sill, Oklahoma

Present Duty Assignment/Occupation: Chief, Safety and Occupational Health Division,

Address: ATTN: NGB-AVN-S, 111 S. George Mason Dr., Arlington, VA 22204

Brief Resume of Duty Assignments:

July 1963	Enlisted in the US Army - Oklahoma City, OK
July - Sep 63	Basic infantry training - Fort Polk, LA
Sep - Nov 63	FA advanced individual training - Fort Sill, OK
Nov 63 - Jul 64	3rd Training Battalion - Fort Sill, OK
Jul 64 - Jan 65	FA OCS - Fort Sill, OK
Jan 65 - Oct 65	3/30th FA Bn (155mm self propelled) - Fort Sill, OK
Oct 65 - Feb 66	Initial Entry Rotary Wing Flight School - Fort Wolters, TX
Feb 66- Jun 66	Initial Entry Rotary Wing Flight School - Fort Rucker, AL
Jul 66 - Jan 67	2/20th Aerial Rocket Artillery, 1st Cav - Republic of Viet Nam
Jan 67 - Jul 67	174th Avn Co, 1st Avn Bde - Republic of Viet Nam
Jul 67 - Aug 70	35th FA Gp - Bamberg, Germany
Dec 80 - Aug 84	B/149th Avn Co - Oklahoma Army National Guard
Aug 84 - Feb 86	Trp Cmd Avn - Oklahoma Army National Guard
Feb 86 - Aug 87	1/245th Avn Bn (Sp Ops) - Oklahoma Army National Guard
Aug 87 - Dec 93	Trp Cmd Avn - Oklahoma Army National Guard
Dec 93 - Mar 97	Operational Support Airlift Command - Fort Belvoir, VA
Mar 97 - Present	Chief, ARNG Safety and Occ Health Div - Arlington, VA

Awards and Decorations:

Distinguished Flying Cross; Soldiers Medal; Bronze Star Medal; Meritorious Service Medal w/1 Oak Leaf Cluster; Air Medal w/22 Oak Leaf Clusters; Good Conduct Medal; Army Commendation Medal w/2 Oak Leaf Clusters; Army Service Ribbon; National

Defense Service Medal; Republic of Viet Nam Campaign Medal; Viet Nam Service Medal; Overseas Ribbon; Viet Nam Unit Award; Viet Nam Cross of Gallantry w/Palm (2nd award); Presidential Unit Citation; Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal; Army Reserve Component Overseas Ribbon (2nd award); Army Overseas Bars (2); Armed Forces Reserve Medal; Army Achievement Medal; Master Army Aviator Badge; Aircraft Crewmember Badge; Air Assault Badge; Royal Thai Army Master Aviator Badge; M16/.45 cal Expert Badge, Rev .38 Cal Expert Badge; Viet Nam Counter Offensive II & III; Oklahoma Long Service Medal (10 yrs).

General Remarks:

Wife - Sondra R. Wood, executive secretary, US Army Legal Services Agency, Contract Appeals Division, Arlington, VA.

Son - CPT Yancy D. Wood, 28 yrs, R/W & F/W aviator, Ft. Rucker, AL

Daughter - Angela L. Wood, 25 yrs, graduate student, Denton, TX

SCHOOLS: Ada High School, 1962; East Central State University, 1963; US Army Field Artillery Officer Candidate School, 1965; US Army Aviation Center Rotary Wing Flight School, 1966; US Air Force Europe Air Ground Operations School, 1968; CH-34 Helicopter Transition School, 1968; UH-1 Instructor Pilot Course, 1982; Field Artillery Officer's Advanced Course, 1984; Naval Post Graduate School Aircraft Combat Survivability Course, 1985; Command and General Staff College, 1988; Southeastern Oklahoma State University, BS, 1989; Air Assault School Critical Leaders Course, 1988; Utility Helicopter Repairman School, 1989; National Guard Bureau Drug Interdiction & Surveillance Operations, 1989; Oklahoma State University, MS, 1991.

Check if additional sheets are attached.


Signature

Colonel Wood began his military career in July 1963, when he enlisted in the US Army. He attended basic Infantry training at Ft. Polk, LA. and advanced individual training, field artillery, at Ft. Sill, OK. In October 1964, he entered the US Army Field Artillery Officer Candidate School at Ft. Sill, OK.

In January 1965, Colonel Wood accepted a commission as Second Lieutenant and assignment to the Service Battery, 3rd Bn, 30th Field Artillery as a maintenance officer. October 1965, he began flight training at the US Army Initial Entry Rotary Wing Flight School, Ft. Wolters, TX.

During January 1966 Colonel Wood was further assigned to Ft. Rucker, AL where he graduated from US Army Aviation Center Rotary Wing Flight School in June 1966. He was promoted to First Lieutenant 19 June 1966, with assignment in July 1966 to the 2nd Bn, 20th Aerial Rocket Artillery unit, 1st Cavalry Division, Republic of South Viet Nam as a section leader. During the initial "infusion program" in Viet Nam, he was transferred to the 174th AHC and flew as a "slick" pilot. He was promoted to Captain on 19 July 1967 and reassigned to Headquarters, 35th Field Artillery Group, Bamberg, Germany where he served from August 1967 through August 1970 as the Aviation Section Commander and Bamberg Airfield Commander.

He voluntarily separated from active duty in August 1970 and entered the commercial construction business in Ada, Oklahoma. In December 1980, he joined Company B, 149th Aviation of the Oklahoma Army National Guard at Lexington, Oklahoma as a Chief Warrant Officer rotary wing pilot. On 4 November 1982 he accepted his commission as a Captain again and became the unit's operation officer.

On 1 July 1982 Colonel Wood was transferred to the S-3 position, at Troop Command (Aviation), Lexington, OK. He became the S-3, as a full-time Technician, in September 1984. He was promoted to Major on 4 November 1984. He was assessed into the Active Guard/Reserve (AGR) Title 32 program on 4 October 1985. On 1 March 1986 he was assigned to the 45th Avn Bn (Special Operations) Tulsa, OK as the S-3, (Title 32 AGR). The 45th Avn Bn was later redesignated as the 245th Avn Bn (Special Operations).

1 August 1987 Colonel Wood was assigned to the S-3 position (AGR) at Troop Command (Aviation) in Norman, OK. On 1 January 1991 he was assigned as the Executive Officer of Troop Command (Aviation). On 1 August 1991, he was assigned as Commander, Troop Command (Aviation) and promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel effective 1 August 1991.

In mid-November 1993, Colonel Wood was requested to join the National Guard Bureau Title 10 AGR Tour Program as a member of the transition team for Operational Support Airlift (OSA). The task of the OSA Transition Team was to plan and coordinate the transfer of the real-world OSA mission from the active Army to the ARNG. He

received orders from NGB and reported to his new Title 10 assignment in Washington, D.C. on 13 December 1993.

Colonel Wood, accepted the position of Deputy Commander, Operational Support Airlift Command (OSAC), an active duty unit, located at Fort Belvoir, VA., in July 1995. OSA was the first day-to-day operational mission accepted by the ARNG for the Total Army. The change of command and activation of OSACOM took place on 1 October 1995. Colonel Wood served in this position until 14 March 1997, when he was reassigned to become the Chief, Safety and Occupational Health Division of the Aviation and Safety Directorate, NGB. He was promoted to the rank of Colonel effective 14 March 1997.