



**Lawrence Arthur Richards Co A-1**

*Although Larry's battles with the Academic Department were piecemeal, he showed a constant devotion to his greater likes. As a gymnast, he smooth movements on the parallel bars where matched by no one. Larry always could be depended upon for a reassuring smile and a warm greeting. Above all, Larry never sacrificed his spontaneity or his sense of values.*

**Born** – 11 Jan 1940, Ft. Monmouth, NJ. Army Brat. His father was USMA '37.

**To USMA** – Came from Arlington, VA. Appointed by California 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Died** – 28 Jan 1987 (age 47) at Tiburon, CA. Buried at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Belvedere, CA.

**Military Awards** – Bronze Star Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Combat Infantryman's Badge.

**Schooling** – MBA Degree from Golden Gate University.

**Family** - Wife – Jeannette Dilg Richards (23 years) – 2 children (Tom and Mary) – grandchildren.

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Larry served on active duty with the Army (Infantry) for 14 years, resigning in 1975, with the rank of Major. His first assignment was at Ft. Campbell with the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division followed by an assignment at Ft. Bragg, NC with the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division. He took a leave of absence during 1965-66 to take pre-med courses. However, his desire to become a doctor was frustrated, by two tours in Viet Nam. He served in Vietnam (first tour), Ft. Benning (Infantry Advanced Course), Vietnam (second tour – Executive Officer 14<sup>th</sup> Infantry and Brigade S-3, 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division), Izmir, Turkey (NATO Headquarters, Allied Forces Southeastern Europe), San Francisco, CA (Golden Gate University), Ft. Ord, CA (Combat Developments Command Experimental Command, CDCEC).

After leaving from active duty in the Army, Larry continued to serve in the Army Reserve. He became a Manager of the Comptroller's Office in the Bechtel Corporation, where he developed computer software. In 1983, an x-ray revealed a dark spot on one of Larry's lungs - it was cancer. Larry passed away on 28 January 1987, from the cancer.

Footnote from wife Jeanne - As a Plebe, Larry met pretty 15-year-old Jeannette Dilg. She wrote 42 years later - "As if by prior arrangement, Larry stepped out from behind one of those suits of armor." He was a smiling, tall, handsome, well-built 17-year-old in cadet gray with a charmingly crooked nose.