



**John Earle Skillman III Co A-2**

*John will always be remembered by his efficiency and ingenuity, whether in designing speakers for his stereo or converting packing boxes into TV cosoles. Having little trouble with academics and the T.D., John found few “dragless” weekends and was always ready for a hand of bridge. His sincerity and flawless performance of duties will stand him in good stead.*

**Born** – 16 June 1939, Pennsylvania.

**To USMA** – Came from Upper Montclair, NJ. Appointed by New Jersey 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Died** – 10 June 2014 (age 74) at Tampa, FL. Buried at Myrtle Hill Cemetery, Tampa, FL.

**Military Awards** – National Defense Service Medal.

**Schooling** – Certified Investment Management Analyst (CIMA).

**Family** - Wife – Ellie Skillman (52 years, married in July 1961) – 3 children (Kenneth, Lee and Paige) – 4 grandchildren.

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John served on active duty in the Army (Artillery) for 3 years, resigning in 1964, with the rank of 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant later Captain with the New Jersey National Guard. His first assignment was with the 35<sup>th</sup> Artillery, 24<sup>th</sup> Division in Munich, Germany.

After leaving active duty in the Army, John began a 40 year career in the securities and investment business. He served as a stock broker, branch manager, and vice president with - Reynolds Securities, Paine Webber, SunTrust Bank of Tampa Bay, and J&W Seligman. In 2002, he joined Flippin, Bruce & Porter, an investment management firm in Lynchburg, VA, where he was responsible for marketing in eight southeastern states, Texas, and Puerto Rico. He retired from there in July 2007.

Following retirement, John continued his life-long interest in family genealogy. Since 1967, he had collected 20,000 names of relatives and families in his database. He was the 7<sup>th</sup> great-grandson of Thomas Skillman, who came from England in 1664. His 3<sup>rd</sup> great-grandfather, Jacob Skillman, served in the New Jersey Militia, allowing John to join the Sons of the American Revolution. He served as Tampa Chapter President and was a dual member of the Fincastle Resolutions Chapter in Roanoke, VA where he served in the Color Guard. In 2012 he founded the Skillman Family Association, Inc. as a forum for the research, collection, and preservation of materials regarding the history and genealogy of the Skillman Family in North America. He published two articles on genealogy – one in the New York Genealogical and Biographical Record and another in the New York Researcher. From 1996 to 2004, he served as a local board member of the Selective Service Systems in Tampa, FL. John passed away on 10 June 2014, from prostate cancer.

Footnote – John was introduced to the stock market while at West Point. While at West Point and later in the Army, he regularly read the Wall Street Journal and books on the stock market, and completed a correspondence course.