



William Barton Townsend Co K-2

Former Classmate

Born - 25 Feb 1939, Houston, Texas.

To USMA - Appointed as a Qualified Alternate.

Died - 25 Nov 1999 (age 60), Waco, TX. Buried at St Paul's Episcopal Church Columbarium.

Military Awards - Completed his military obligation in the Texas Army Reserve.

Education: Bachelor's Degrees in Mathematics and Engineering, Texas A&M University.

Family – Wife - Rosemary West Townsend – Two children (William III and Tami) – 4 grandchildren.

Contact - Rosemary Townsend, Address 613 Wooded Crest Drive, Waco, TX 76712, Phone 254-772-7314, Email rosemary_townsend@baylor.edu.

Bill came to West Point in July of 1957 and breezed through New Cadet Summer Training (Beast Barracks) eagerly anticipating football season, where he was a standout on the Plebe team. Academics was another story. Although excellent in Mathematics, Spanish and Physical Education, the dreaded Department of English was his nemesis. Liked and respected by all his K-2 and football classmates, Bill left the Academy for home and enrollment at Texas A&M.

Bill was devoted to his family and coached many of the children's early athletic teams. He loved football and never missed a Texas Aggie home game. Yet, he never forgot his experience at West Point and followed the Black Knights avidly. Notably, Bill saw to it that the cadet motto, "Duty, Honor, Country," hung in his son's bedroom. Today it resides at his eldest grandson's home.

Bill was a long time employee of the Brazos Electric Power Cooperative where he served as Vice President of the firm's Transmission Division. He was active in Church, community and professional affairs, having served as a vestry member of the Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit in Waco, an officer of the Central Texas Society of Professional Engineers and as a member of the Woodway City Council from 1984 to 1994. At the time of his passing, Bill was involved with the Historic Waco Foundation and with Woodway's Toward 2000 Task Force.

A recollection from Don Lionetti - While at Fort Bliss, Bobbi and Don tracked Bill down through the local A&M AOG (or equivalent) as A&M was playing the University of Washington in the 1990 Sun Bowl. Bill and Rosemary joined us for the game and a wonderful weekend in El Paso.

Bill passed away on 25 November 1999. He was respected and loved by all his staff and supervisors. Although St. Paul's is a very large church, many attendees had to stand outside the day of the funeral. William Barton Townsend was an honorable man in every sense of the word.