



**William Ira Parks, Jr. Co I-2**

*Bill came to West Point from Mississippi, Suh, a true southern gentleman with a flair for practical jokes and no nonsensical witticisms. The company expert in "cow pasture pool," he was a stalwart in both intramurals and Corps Squad. The boys from I-2 will always remember the Top Soldier who was ready with a smile and a helping hand all the time.*

**Born** – 10 March 1938, in Grenada, MS.

**To USMA** – from Grenada, MS.

**Died** – 31 March 2018 (age 80) at Lake Ridge, VA. Buried at Arlington National Cemetery.

**Military Awards** – Bronze Star Medal, Soldiers Medal, 3 Legion of Merit Medals, Army Commendation Medal, 2 Meritorious Service Medals, Defense Superior Service Medal, Combat Infantryman Badge.

**Schooling** – Command and General Staff College, CGSC, Army War College, AWC. Jungle Warfare School.

**Family** - Wife – Becky Terry (deceased) – 1 daughter (Terry) – 1 grandchild.

**Contact** – Terry Weaver (daughter), Address 2506 Paxton Street, Woodbridge, VA 22192, Phone unknown, Email unknown.

Bill served on active duty in the Army (Infantry) for 30 years, retiring in 1991, with the rank of Colonel. His first assignment was with the First Battle Group, 502<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Infantry Regiment, AIR, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division, Fort Campbell, KY. He then served in Germany (Detachment Commander, 10<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Groups, SFG), Vietnam (Special Forces Group, FG), Fort Benning, GA (Infantry Advance Course, TIS) Fort Leavenworth, KS (Command and General Staff College, CGSC, Korea (S-3, Operations, 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade, 2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division), Fort Benning, GA (S-3, Operations, 197<sup>th</sup> Brigade), Fort Stewart, GA (Commander, 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 7<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division), Pentagon, VA (Staff Officer, Headquarters, Department of the Army, HqDA, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, Operations and Planning, ODCSOPS), Carlisle, PA (Army War College, AWC), Redstone Arsenal, AL (Headquarters, Army Materiel Command, AMC), Ankara, Turkey (Chief, Army Secretary, ArSec, Joint U.S. Military Mission for Aid to Turkey, JUSMMAT), Redstone Arsenal, AL (Director, Europe Directorate, U.S. Army Security Assistance Command, USASAC).

Bill passed away on 21 March 2018, from Alzheimer's disease.