



Phillips Waller Smith, Jr. Co A-1

Smitty has admirably represented himself as well as his military family tradition in the life of a cadet and future junior officer. Phil worked hard but he was never one to take a side seat with the girls. When Smitty graduates he will leave unfillable gaps in the Corps and in barracks life.

Born – 9 Dec. 1937 at Davenport, Iowa. Father (USMA '30) and Army Air Force.

To USMA – from Cleveland, OH. Appointed as Qualified Alternate QA from Illinois. Nickname – “Smitty”.

Died – 14 April 2021 (age 83) at Scottsdale, AZ. Buried at Green Acres Cemetery, Scottsdale, AZ.

Military Awards – Pilot Wings, Air Force Commendation Medal.

Schooling – Master of Business Administration, MBA Degree Michigan State University, PhD Degree, St. Louis University.

Family - Wife – Patricia Ann (Patty) Rich Smith (57 years - deceased) – 2 children (Tom and Patrick (Rick)) – 7 grandchildren.

Contact – Tom and Rick Smith (sons), Address Wrap Technologies, Tempe, AZ or AXON, Scottsdale, AZ, Phone unknown, Email unknown.

Phil served on active duty in the Air Force for 7 years, resigning in 1968, with the rank of Captain. His first assignment was pilot flight school in Phoenix, AZ. He attended and earned a Master of Business Administration, MBA Degree from Michigan State University at East Lansing, MI. He then served with the Headquarters, Military Air Transport Service, HMATS (C-130 Pilot and Operations Research Analyst) at Scott AFB, Illinois during the Vietnam War which became the Military Airlift Command (MAC) in 1966. He earned a PhD Degree in Business Administration from the St. Louis University soon before leaving the Air Force.

After leaving active duty in the Air Force, Phil had a successful business career in technology research and management. He worked for the Environmental Center of Lear Siegler, Inc. (President), the Applied Research Labs of Bausch & Lomb (President), CAE Systems (Chief Executive Officer, CEO), Edge Computing (CEO), Zycad Corporation (President and CEO), Pentawave, Inc. (Chairman), TASER International Inc. (Chairman – startup founded by Phil and his two sons and now named AXON), Mind Over Matter LLC (Chairman), ATST Technologies (Chairman). Phil passed away on 14 April 2021.

Footnote – from the 50 Year yearbook – “To borrow a line from Anthony Hopkins in the movie “Meet Joe Black” – “It all goes by in the blink of an eye!”