



**Terry Lee Alexander Co A-2**

*Terry came to us from the heartland of the Pennsylvania Dutch and could always be found thereafter at German Club activities. Giving up his Indian pony for a tank to pursue a career in the Armor, this popular classmate will undoubtedly enjoy success in the army.*

**Born** – 20 July 1939, Marion Township, PA.

**To USMA** – Came from Womelsdorf, PA.

Appointed as a Qualified Alternate. Nickname – “The Womseldorfer Kid.”

**Died** – 28 June 2000 (age 60) at Shelby Township, MI. Buried at Womelsdorf Union Cemetery, Womelsdorf, PA. His son Steve played taps.

**Military Awards** – Bronze Star Medal, Air Medal, 2 Army Commendation Medals, Legion of Merit, Combat Infantryman’s Badge.

**Schooling** – Master’s Degree in Industrial Engineering, University of Illinois, Command and General Staff College.

**Family** - Wife – Elizabeth (Betsy) Eagelman Alexander (39 years) – 2 sons (Philip and Steven) – grandchildren.

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Terry served on active duty in the Army (Armor) for 21 years, retiring in 1982, with the rank of Lt. Colonel. His first assignment was with the 81<sup>st</sup> Armor at Ft. Hood, TX. He then served in Korea (15<sup>th</sup> Armor, 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division), Ft. Knox, KY (Armor Advanced Course), Ft. Hood, TX (Company Commander and Brigade S-1, 2<sup>nd</sup> Armored Division), Great Britain (British Royal Armour School of Tank Technology), Vietnam (Commander, Armored Reconnaissance Troop, 11<sup>th</sup> Brigade and Staff Officer, 198<sup>th</sup> Brigade, 23<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division), Ft. Knox, KY (Chief, Combat Vehicle Test Branch, Armor and Engineer Board), Urbana-Champaign, IL (University of Illinois), Ft. Hood, TX (Test Officer, Headquarters, Modern Army Selected Systems Test Evaluation & Review, MASSTER), Ft. Leavenworth, KS (Command and General Staff College), Warren, MI (Program Management Office, PMO, M60 Tank and Assistant Project Manager, M60A3 Tank, Office of Project Management, Tank Automotive Command, TACOM).

After retiring from active duty in the Army, Terry worked for General Dynamics Land Systems Division for 14 years. This included work on new armored vehicle concepts ranging from self-propelled artillery to tank recovery vehicles. Terry passed away on 28 June 2000, from cancer.

Footnote from an A-2 Classmate at Terry’s graveside burial ceremony - "We were among the gravestones about 20 yards from the funeral party. We could see the seven-member firing party and the Army bugler .... Three volleys were fired, and we waited for the bugler to play Taps, but he didn't move .....Then, suddenly, off to our right front, coming from the funeral party were the clear notes of Taps. Surely, this was not some recording being played. Then we saw the source of those strong notes. It was Terry's son, Steve, playing Taps for his father. What a tribute to a father and to a soldier!"