



**John Knapp Solomon Co G-1**

*It would not be appropriate to talk of John's many talents, for although he possesses them, this book records the graduates of the Military Academy, not a conservatory. For four years he has driven us constantly with the enthusiasm which all who know him will recognize. When this enthusiasm is pointed at the service, it cannot help but result in success.*

**Born** – 1 Oct. 1938 in Texas. His father was Brigadier General Maddrey Solomon USMA '33.

**To USMA** – from Arlington, VA. Appointed from North Carolina.

**Died** – 30 March 2020 (age 81) at Fredericksburg, VA. Buried at Arlington National Cemetery.

**Military Awards** – 2 Bronze Star Medals, Air Medal, Legion of Merit, 2 Army Commendation Medals, 2 Meritorious Service Medals, Defense Meritorious Service Medal.

**Schooling** – Master of Science, MS Degree in Mathematics, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, RPI. Marine Command and Staff College, MarC&SC), Army War College, AWC.

**Family** - Wife – Mary Jane Solomon (55 years) – 3 children (Mary Anne, Christopher, Mary Katherine) – 5 grandchildren.

**Contact** – Mary Jane Solomon, Address 10907 Cedar Creek Drive, Spotsylvania, VA 22551, Phone 540-972-8915, Email maryjanesolomon@gmail.com.

John served on active duty in the Army (Artillery) for 26 years, retiring in 1986, with the rank of Colonel. His first assignment was with the 82<sup>nd</sup> Artillery in Italy and then the 30<sup>th</sup> Artillery). He then served at Fort Sill, OK and Fort Bliss, TX (Advanced Artillery and Missile School, A&MS), Fort Sill, OK (Battery Commander, 2<sup>nd</sup> Artillery – Sergeant Missile System and 105 mm Howitzers), Troy, NY (Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, RPI), Vietnam (S3 Operations, 1<sup>st</sup> Division Artillery, RVN and S3, 11<sup>th</sup> Artillery, 11<sup>th</sup> Brigade – LZ Bronco), West Point, NY (Instructor, Math Department), Marine Corps Base, Quantico, VA (Marine Command and Staff College, MarC&SC), Pentagon, VA (Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, Department of the Army, ODCSOPS DA), Crailsheim, Germany (Commanding Officer, 42<sup>nd</sup> Field Artillery), Carlisle, PA (Army War College, AWC), West Point, NY (Regimental Tactical Officer, RTO, Tactical Department), Pentagon, VA, FL (Washington Liaison Office, WLO, Rapid Development Joint Task Force, RDJTF), Vicenza, Italy (G3 Operations, Southern European Task Force, SETAF), Pentagon, VA (Organization of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, OJCS).

After leaving active duty in the Army, John had a successful career serving as a teacher and mentorship coordinator on the science and technology faculty of the Thomas Jefferson High School. John passed away on 30 March 2020, from Parkinson's disease.

Footnote from John – “Flashback. I am living a dream. For ten years (up to the 50<sup>th</sup> reunion in 2011), I have been confronting Parkinson's disease. At the lowest, God granted me a miracle – A new drug.....Life was and continues to be very good. I take an almost daily sojourn back in time that evokes those precious memories. I have my life back, and I am busy living a dream!”