



**John Luther Kammerdiener Co G-2**

*John ambled up from the Lone Star State and proceeded to demonstrate that although Texas may not produce the biggest of everything, they certainly produce the best. Dumbo's greatest sport other than his exploits on the obstacle course, PFT, and rope, was hazing the academic department in which he got his major "A" three years running.*

**Born** – 6 July 1937, at Perrin, Texas.

**To USMA** – from Alice, Texas. Appointed from Texas.

**Died** – 3 May 2023 (age 85) at Salt Lake City, UT. Burial to be determined.

**Military Awards** – 3 Bronze Star Medals, Army Commendation Medal.

**Schooling** – Master of Science, MS Degree in Applied Science, University of California, PhD Degree in Nuclear Physics, University of California under the famous Edward Teller at the Livermore National Laboratory, CA.

**Family** – 1<sup>st</sup> Wife Robin Kammerdiener, one child (Kristen), 2<sup>nd</sup> Wife – Ellen Kammerdiener, 2 children (Susan and Michael), 8 grandchildren, one great grandchild.

**Contact** – Ellen Kammerdiener, Address 400 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Marble Falls, TX 78654, northwest of Austin, Phone unknown, Email unknown.

John was ranked number one in the class of 1961 at graduation, which was based primarily on academic standing. He served on active duty in the Army (Corps of Engineers) for 11 years, resigning in 1972, with the rank of Major. His first assignment was with the 13<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion in Korea. He then served in California (937<sup>th</sup> Engineer Group and MS Student, University of California), Vietnam (Commander, 557<sup>th</sup> Logistics Engineer, LE Company), Livermore National Laboratory, CA (Military Research Associate and PhD Student, University of California), Fort Belvoir, (Engineer Advanced Course, TES).

After leaving active duty in the Army, John had a successful career as a physicist and administrator at the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), NM north of Albuquerque where he received a number of awards over time including becoming a LANL Fellow and a Hertz Fellow. The work included conducting a number of experiments at the Nevada Test Site. Shortly after his move to Los Alamos, he bought a cabin in the Taos Ski Valley, NM, 80 miles northeast of Los Alamos on the southern end of the Rocky Mountains and they spent almost every weekend there. After retiring from LANL, John and Ellen moved to Marble Falls, TX to help fulfill one of John's lifelong dreams of being a rancher back in his home state. John passed away on 3 May 2023.

Footnote from John – "I have previously passed up a Rhodes scholarship because they would not let me study physics. They gave it to Howard Graves, so I guess that worked out all right....Retirement has been rewarding....Ellen was born in New York City, but I convinced her to move to my native Texas. We bought a working ranch that fills my days."