



Harold Michael Hannon Co I-2

Ron was the “Dad” of our class, being our interceding element with the “TD,” as first Captain; and with the outside world, as class president. Ron was always concerned with any problems concerning a classmate or an underclassman. There’s no doubt in our minds that one of the reasons why ’61 is second to none is that Ron was our leader.

Born – 29 Nov. 1935 in Scranton, PA.

To USMA – from Scranton, PA. Appointed by the Army. Nickname – “Ron”.

Died – 21 Sept. 2018 (age 82) at Cocoa Beach. To be buried at West Point.

Military Awards – Legion of Merit, Distinguished Flying Cross, Bronze Star Medal w/1 Oak Leaf Cluster, Meritorious Service Medal, 20 Air Medals, Army Commendation Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Expert Infantryman Badge, Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Silver Star, Senior Army Aviator Badge.

Schooling – Master of Arts Degree, Duke University, Armed Forces Staff College, AFSC, PhD, University of Michigan.

Family - Wife – Neuzy (Zy, Chris) Pereira (deceased) – 2 children (Mark and Michael) – 3 grandchildren, 1 great grandchild. Son Mark, USMA ’89. Daughter-in-law, Michelle, USMA 88.

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Ron served on active duty in the Army (Infantry) for 26 years, retiring in 1986, with the rank of Colonel. His first assignment was with the 1st Cavalry Division in Korea and Aide de Camp for the Commanding General, 1AD, Fort Rucker, AL (Flight School), Fort Benning, GA (Infantry Advanced Course), Vietnam (1st tour, Platoon Leader, 227 Assault Helicopter Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division), Germany (4th Armored Division, AD), Vietnam (2nd tour, Company Commander, Aviation Battalion, 4th Infantry Division, 4AD), Fort Knox, KY (Theater Army Replacement Command, TARC), Norfolk, VA (Armed Forces Staff College, AFSC), Durham, NC (Duke University), West Point, NY (Instructor, History Department), Fort Bragg, NC (Executive Officer, 1st Battalion, 508th Airborne Infantry Regiment, Commanding Officer, Training Battalion, XVIII Airborne Corps), Ann Arbor, MI (University of Michigan, UMI), West Point, NY (Professor, History Department).

After leaving active duty in the Army, Ron had a successful career in business working at the New York Stock Exchange with the Sarroff Sager Company (West Point classmate) and Triad Securities. Ron passed away on 21 September 2018, from cancer.

Footnote from Ron – “Our dream was shattered by the dreadful disease, Alzheimer’s, which claimed Zy as a victim. However, our love deepened as we fought the losing battle and our last moment together ended with a soft, loving kiss and a smile. She was beautiful even in death. Zy and I had a wonderful life together and she now awaits me entombed in the Old Cadet Chapel at West Point.”

Footnote from classmate, Pete Gleichenhaus – Ron Hannon was the Cadet Brigade First Captain our senior year. He also lettered multiple times in basketball and lacrosse.