



Howard Dwayne Graves Co M-2

Howie came to West Point from the Panhandle of Texas with the true Texas determination to do everything in a big way. In spite of his busy schedule, he always seemed to have time to listen to and encourage another cadet with a problem. His many talents and his determination to do everything well assure him success in any endeavor.

Born – 15 Aug 1939, Texas.

To USMA – Came from Amarillo, TX. Appointed by Texas 18th. Nickname – “Howie”.

Died – 13 Sep 2003 (age 64) at College Station, TX. Buried at West Point.

Military Awards – 3 Bronze Star Medals, 5 Air Medals, Army Commendation Medal, 2 Meritorious Service Medals, 2 Legions of Merit, 2 Defense Service Medals, Defense Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal.

Schooling – Rhodes Scholar, Oxford University, St. John’s College, Master’s Degrees, England. Command and General Staff College, Army War College.

Family - Wife – Gracie Graves (40 years) – 2 children (Gigi and Greg) – 6 grandchildren.

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Howie served on active duty in the Army (Corps of Engineers) for 35 years, retiring in 1996, with the rank of Lieutenant General. His first assignment was as a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford University, England. He then served at Ft. Belvoir, VA (Engineer Advanced Course), U.S. and Dominican Republic (Company Commander, 307th Engineer Battalion), Ft. Bragg, NC (82nd Airborne Division), Oxford, England (Oxford University, Masters Degrees), Vietnam (Battalion S-3 and Assistance Engineer, 1st Air Cavalry Division), Ft. Leavenworth, KS (Command and General Staff College), West Point, NY (Instructor, Social Science Department), Pentagon (Military Advisory, Secretary of Defense), Germany (Commander, 54th Engineer Battalion), Carlisle, PA (Army War College), Ft. Bragg, NC (Commander, 20th Engineer Brigade), Ft. Riley, KS (Aid, 1st Infantry Division), Pentagon (Deputy Chief of Staff, Army Force Command, FORSCOM, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for the Operations, ODCSOPS, and Vice Directory for the Office of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, OJCS), Carlisle, PA (Commandant, Army War College), Pentagon (Assistant to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, JCS), West Point, NY (Superintendent, USMA).

After retiring from active duty in the Army, Howie worked with the Association International Foundation, was a visiting professor at the University of Texas, and the Chancellor at the Texas A&M University System. Howie passed away on 13 September 2003, from cancer (sarcoma).

Footnote from Gracie Graves – “Coming back to Texas was like homecoming. I remember the Old West saying ‘He died with his boots on.’ That was Howard, really a cowboy at heart. I never saw him laugh so often and enjoy his work as much as he did at A&M.”