

**Major (Former) Edward Burke**  
**Class of 1942**  
**Enshrined 2018**



Edward Burke was the President of the Student Council his senior year. On May 24, 1942, Ed graduated and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant, Field Artillery from the XU ROTC program. He started his Army career the very next day at Ft Bragg with follow-on training at Ft Sill and Tank Destroyer training Camp Hood. His Tank Destroyer battalion was attached to the 29 Infantry Division in Normandy on D-Day in 1944. His unit remained attached to the 29<sup>th</sup> for the duration of the war. Ed's unit, joining with other Allied forces, liberated the French towns of Brest, St. Lo and Vire. He later served as a Commander for a tank destroyer battalion and his actions earned him the Silver Star, Bronze Star, and highest honor that the French government awards to foreign military servicemen the Knight of the Legion of Honor medal for his efforts in liberating France during the Nazi occupation.

Besides the afore mentioned awards, his awards and decorations include: the American Defense Service Medal, American Campaign Medal, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with Arrowhead (D-Day), four battle stars and one oak leaf cluster, the Victory Medal, the Occupation of Germany medal, The Belgian Croix de Guerre, The French Croix de Guerre with Palm, The French Croix de Guerre with Silver Star and two Presidential Unit Citations.

Ed was discharged as a Major and returned to Cincinnati at the end of the war. He arrived home just after Christmas and five days later he married his high school sweetheart. He attended the University of Cincinnati and earned a Juris Doctor (J.D.). He practiced real estate law for the majority of his career.

Ed celebrated his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on Apr 9 (2018), the same day the Surrender was signed at Appomattox Court House, ending the Civil War. Ed has 16 grandchildren and 27 great-great grandchildren.

Ed exemplifies the highest traditions of the US Army and the Warrior Ethos and the Army ROTC program. He lived the Army Values of Loyalty, Duty, Respect, Selfless Service, Honor, Integrity, and Personal Courage, and Xavier University's values to succeed in changing the world together and acting with integrity, justice and generosity. He is most worthy of induction into the ROTC Hall of Fame.

